

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

NEW BRUNSWICK — The New Jersey State Bar Foundation hosts a free seminar on small claims court at the New Jersey Law Center, 7 p.m. 1-(800)-FREE-LAW.

NEWARK — 10,000 Mentors, Inc. hosts a "Boys to Men" mentor training program, 3:30 p.m. (973) 242-1142.

HACKENSACK — The Department of Human Services Division of Veterans Services hosts a birthday party for the 224 Marine Corps, Call (201) 461-1776 for information.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

EDISON — The NAACP of Metuchen-Edison Area hosts its general meeting at the Edison Job Corps Building, 7 p.m. (732) 205-6688.

HACKENSACK — The Department of Human Services Division of Veterans Services honors all who served in the U.S. Military with the seniors, 11 a.m. (201) 461-1776.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

BERKLEY HEIGHTS — The Volunteer Guild of RUNNELLS Specialized Hospital of Union County hosts a vendor sale featuring top holiday items, 8 a.m. (908) 771-5730.

CRANFORD — Union County College hosts an exhibit on teenage culture entitled "Teen Angst, Love, Hate, and Other Things," 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. (908) 709-7155.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

NEWARK — The New Jersey Historical Society hosts a family games activity, 12:15 p.m. (973) 596-8500.

CRANFORD — The Theater Project of Union County hosts a Cabaret at the school's Commons building, 8 p.m. (908) 655-5189.

PERTH AMBOY — Second Baptist Church hosts a luncheon and reception for the church with guest speaker United Negro College Fund president and CEO William H. Gray, III, 12 p.m. (732) 642-1955.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

NEWARK — The Newark Literacy Campaign hosts a training session for new volunteers at the Newark Public Library, 6 p.m. (973) 623-4001.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

ATLANTIC CITY — The Rent Leaving Association of New Jersey

hosts a workshop on what impact does rent control have on market rental rates at the New Atlantic City Convention Center, 3:45 p.m. (973) 266-4201.

NEWARK — The Newark Literacy Campaign hosts a training session for new volunteers at the Newark Public Library, 6 p.m. (973) 623-4001.

PARAMUS — The Bergen County Department of Health Services offers a free program to all adults age 60 or older on food safety at the Community Services Building, 1:30 p.m. (201) 599-8902.

ELIZABETH — Union County College hosts a job fair 10:30 a.m. (908) 799-7501.

TEANECK — Fortune Magazine hosts the Fourth Annual "Worldwide Lessons in Leadership Series" at the Marriott at Glenpointe, 10:45 a.m. 1-(800)-689-9771.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

DENVILLE — The Research and Development Council of New Jersey hosts its 1999 Science/Technology Model Dinner at the Liberty Science in Jersey City, Call (973) 627-5330 for information.

NEWARK — The Newark Literacy Campaign hosts a training session for new volunteers at the Newark Public Library, 6 p.m.

BERKLEY HEIGHTS — The RUNNELLS Specialized Hospital of Union County hosts a support group meeting for those caring or living with Alzheimer's, 1 p.m. (908) 771-5815.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Institute for School Innovation hosts its 1,000 Friends Education Policy Luncheon featuring speaker David Grant at the Newark Club, 12 p.m. (973) 621-0631.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

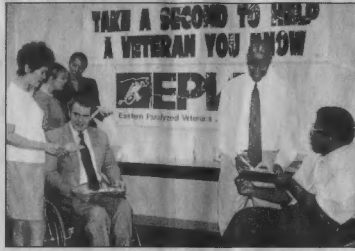
ELIZABETH — A night of giving and fun will be in store as Jersey Gardens Mall "Magical Night of Giving," 7 p.m. 1-(877) 642-1955.

CALDWELL — The Friends of Caldwell College hosts its 25th Annual Craft Show at the school's Student Center, 10 a.m. (973) 618-3209.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

NEW YORK — The Lesbian and Gay Community Service Center commemorates World AIDS Day with The Sounds of Love at The Center, 7 p.m. (212) 620-7310.

Paralyzed veterans gain public support for funding



JACKSON, NY — In a sustained effort to generate public support for a \$3 billion increase in the Department of Veterans Affairs (V.A.) national health care budget for fiscal year 2000, officers, staff and friends of the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association (EPVA) spent the months collecting signatures from concerned citizens on more than 10,000 postcards to the U.S. Congress. Pictured here are Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association staff members John Del Colle (left) and Martin Daniels obtain signatures on postcards from two supporters of increased V.A. health care funding outside EPVA's headquarters in Jackson Heights, NY.

Union County pie eating winner is Latisha Coleman



UNION — Latisha Coleman (right) was a winner of a \$25 "Toys R Us" gift certificate in the "Jersey Jazz By The Lake Festival's" pie eating contest held recently in Union County. Freeholder Chairman Nicholas P. Scutari (holding mic) congratulated Latisha after she won the third round. The blueberries and cream joined the face painting that had been done earlier. Youngsters had fun without whipped cream saw puppy performances, music, drama and dance.

Master storyteller Rafe Martin comes to NJCU



JERSEY CITY — World renowned author and storyteller Rafe Martin (right) told original stories and renditions of traditional world tales at New Jersey City University (NJCU) during his program of "International Stories," part of a university series, "Creative Knowing: A Function of Storytelling." Pictured here (from the left) Evelyn Leibowitz, NJCU student Ngong Nguemata, Dr. Hyun Hochmann, chair of the NJCU Department of Philosophy and Religion; and Charles Plosky, NJCU associate professor of art.

Noted journalist Gil Noble moderates forum at NJCU



JERSEY CITY — Journalist Gil Noble (right), a visiting specialist at New Jersey City University, moderated a recent student forum that explored "Leadership and Community." Gathered with Mr. Noble before the program were participants (from the left) NJCU student Jelani Haywood, Jahsun Sparrow and Dr. Antoinette Ellis-Williams, director of NJCU's Lee Hagan African Studies Center which sponsored the program.

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NATIONAL BRIEF

MAXINE WATERS CALLS SENATE DENIAL OF JUDGE RONNIE WHITE RACIST

(NNPA) — "We stand here today to draw a line in the sand. A line beyond which we will not allow anyone to cross," said Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) during a recent protest rally outside the U.S. Capitol, sparked by the Senate's Oct. 5 decision to deny the judicial nomination of Missouri's Judge Ronnie White for a federal district court appointment. Although Republicans charge their actions were fair, this served as the first time since 1987 that a judicial nomination was rejected by the full Senate. Senator [John] Ascroft (R-Mt.) played the "race card." He played it by acting in the most racist way to deny a qualified African American his rightful position on the federal bench. I know a racist when I see one," Rep. Waters said. Senate Republicans, who failed to act on the nomination during last year's 105th Congress, justified their actions toward Judge White as a vote against his opposition to the death penalty. Others at the rally included: Reps. James Clyburn (D-S.C.), William Clay (D-Mo.), Elijah Cummings (D-Md.), Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-Texas), Donald Payne (D-N.J.), Melvin Watt (D-N.C.), Albert Wynn (D-Md.) and District of Columbia Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton.

NORTH CAROLINIANS RECOVERING SLOWLY FROM THE WRATH OF HURRICANE FLOYD

(NNPA) — As recovery operations for Hurricane Floyd reached the one-month milestone, residents in North Carolina's devastated areas continue to try to put their lives back together. With the help of monetary and material donations from around the country and federal assistance from the Federal Management Agency's (FEMA), the restoration process is moving ahead slowly. Currently, federal funding to assist the state exceeds \$135 million with the largest components including: \$41.8 million approved for emergency housing and grants to individuals and families; \$55.5 million approved for 1,394 low-interest Small Business Administration loans; and \$26 million obligated to pay for 66 mission assignments in the disaster area conducted by other federal agencies. However, Suggs said that the funds being allotted are insufficient based on the magnitude of the calamity, which he said resembles a third world country. Since the presidential disaster declaration on Sept. 16, 61,840 North Carolinians have registered for assistance by calling FEMA's toll-free application hotline.

U.N. APPROVES PEACEKEEPING MISSION IN SIERRA LEONE

UNITED NATIONS (IPS) — The U.N. Security Council unanimously approved the creation of a new peacekeeping force in Sierra Leone, which is intended to deploy some 6,000 soldiers to the West African nation within one month. The Council's approval of the U.N. Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), which will assist in demobilizing government and rebel troops and monitor a cease-fire in effect since July, marked the first major U.N. commitment to peacekeeping in Africa since U.N. troops withdrew from Rwanda and Somalia four years ago.

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Memorial statue to honor the legacy of Reverend Dr. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

NEW YORK — Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Memorial Committee, Inc. (ACPJMC, Inc.), a not-for-profit tax-exempt organization has commissioned African American sculptor Brandy Cadet to design a memorial statue to honor the late United States Congressman, Reverend Dr. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. The ACPJMC, Inc. is governed by a dedicated group of business and socially concerned individuals who are committed to invigorating the Harlem community by placing the larger than life-size statue on the plaza of the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building at 125th Street — in the "Heart of Harlem."

Reverend Dr. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. breathed, lived and loved politics. For three decades, he courageously stormed across America, reaching out to the poor, protesting segregation and denouncing racism. Powell was a mesmerizing public speaker with an outstanding record of accomplishment. During a time when African Americans and other minorities in America experienced obvious segregation and racism, Powell would climb into the pulpit, deeply touch the core of the congregation's soul with an exhilarating sermon, and then lead a protest up and down the



Dr. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. streets of Harlem - objecting to the overwhelming disparity of African American-owned businesses along 125th Street and the scarcity of African American representation in management positions.

Congressman Powell was more than a servant for all underserved Americans. His public ser-

vice leadership and legislative accomplishments are innumerable - passing more than eighty pieces of legislation. He was the first black Congressman from the Eastern Seaboard since Reconstruction, and was an outspoken proponent of anti-lynching legislation. He served as the Chairman of the House Education and

Labor Committee under the Kennedy Administration, where he single-handedly formed and integrated a working committee in the nation's capital. He was a prime mover and shaker, and greatly responsible for college and minimum wage reforms to name a few. Powell was also an outspoken New York City Council Member, civil rights activist, and Pastor of the world-renowned Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem. As a result of his relentless pursuit for justice and equality for America's underserved.

The ACPJMC, Inc. fund raising campaign will raise \$360,000 to erect this historic statue which will be the first of its kind in the United States to honor Congressman Powell. Upon completion, the Board of Directors will dedicate the memorial statue to the people of the State of New York during an unveiling ceremony scheduled for Spring 2000. ACPJMC, Inc. is now accepting tax-deductible contributions from individuals, groups, business and organization who want to keep the legacy of Dr. Powell alive, forever. For additional information please contact: Mr. Wendell Niles at: (212) 685-2612, or e-mail him at: wniles@nilescom.com.

Stay of execution is granted for Mumia

WASHINGTON — Shortly after the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) released a statement expressing its concern about the unresolved issues in the Mumia Abu-Jamal case, a stay of execution was granted last week.

Governor Tom Ridge had signed a death warrant setting Abu-Jamal's Dec. 2 execution date after an appeal for a review in this case was rejected by the Supreme Court. Congressman Chaka Fattah (D-Pa.) and John Conyers (D-Mich.) spoke on behalf of the 38-member caucus, stating that justice can only be served through a new trial.

"The only thing we know for sure is that he has not been given due process and that alone is enough for a new trial," said Rep. Fattah.

In 1992, Abu-Jamal, a radio journalist and former Black Panther who criticized violence and racism within the Philadelphia police department, was convicted of killing Daniel Faulkner, a white Philadelphia police officer.

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Census 2000.
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FOR WOMEN Gals it's the Millennium

Did Terry McMillan, famed author of "How Stella Got Her Groove Back" really believe the "older" woman to think it perfectly okay to be wooed and loved by the "younger" man? You know Ms. thing married her 20 something young man and thus far no reports have been cited to confirm that she's not in heavenly bliss. However, there still remains the stigma that it's not okay for an older woman to get her groove on with someone who might be old enough to be her own son—a perplexing issue for women but quite the contrary for her male counterpart. It is acceptable, not unusual, and, for lack of a better thought, a grandstanding ego booster to the over 40 male to take up with a 20 something woman. Because we live in a patriarchal society this young/old love thing is deemed okay. And in some instances the man might even have children older than his younger wife or steady. The only one that might be complaining is the older woman who was dropped for the younger one. But the Millennium might just be the time for women to break from those barriers that have deprived them of experiencing life fully, even if that means being content and happy in love with a younger man. Life has a way of being confining, rigid, and restricting if you let it. Living outside the norm has its advantages when it comes to having experiences otherwise you would not encounter. So, women all of you who have dared to dream of doing something totally different go ahead, after all, it is the Millennium what do you have to lose? If not now then when?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

U.S. Apartheid 1999

Dear Editor, You wouldn't think that our country has an overwhelming political character along its path of destruction. But you sometimes forget that you live under a very flawed country with a very flawed system of government. You might have thought "separate but equal," a.k.a. Plessy vs. Ferguson, a.k.a. U.S. apartheid was a thing of the past.

City officials in New Brunswick, a small city, the home to Rutgers University as well as a number of headquarters, Johnson & Johnson one of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies—didn't think twice about putting middle class white blood victims

into rooms at a Hyatt Hotel, while at the same time placing the poor, mostly black and Latino residents of a housing project into a school gym with filthy mattresses to sleep on.

Only when the overly racist character of their actions were exposed, and attacked did city officials change their actions and offer all the residents similar living arrangements. The residents of the New Jersey Freedom Organization along with the community showed the potential that exists if communities can come together in unified political action.

Sincerely,
Mark C. Smith

By Dr. Conrad W. Warrill

As we continue to pursue the goals of liberation and independence, in the African Liberation movement, it is imperative that from time to time, we take a meditative moment to look deep inside ourselves as a people.

Day in and day out we can observe the increased number of African people killing each other, mentally and physically abusing each other, stealing from each other, being dishonest with each other, and the list goes on and on. These negative incidents occur, in part, because segments of the African community in the United States are disconnected from the moral and ethical traditions that have characterized relationships among African people in the past.

The problem with segments of African people in this country being disconnected from the great contributions of African people to the civilizations of the world has resulted in far too many of us to believing that the current situation we find ourselves in cannot be changed.

Many African people believe that the condition of African people in America is permanent and there is nothing we can do to change our circumstances. Therefore, this disconnected group of African people have chosen the easy road. They travel on the road of cooperating and collaborating with the forces of white supremacy who continue to demonstrate they will do any and everything their power to keep African people in this country and the rest of the world on the bottom.

This has resulted in many African people in America and the world continuing to develop a "bottom mentality." In other words, many of our people buy into whatever the white supremacy forces feed us through the media, (mis)educational institutions, and religious institutions.

What they constantly feed us is that we are on the bottom and we will remain on the bottom. What the white supremacy forces really want us to believe is that we are, as individuals who can get off the bottom if you join us. Never mind your group, your family and cultural ties," there is nothing

that can be done with those people. Join us and everything will be alright." If you join us, "you can obtain a good job, buy a nice house in a good neighborhood, buy a nice car, take nice vacations, and some of you, whom we chose, can even live with us."

We were not always like this as a people. We did not have a dog eat dog mentality and this is what we must examine as we continue to struggle to overthrow the system of white supremacy and its impact on us as a people.

The Creative Force of the universe has endowed us with the capacity to make great contributions to the world. A simple inspection of the ancient Nile Valley civilization of *Kemet* (Egypt) should inspire all African

"The wisdom of our ancestors should give us the inspiration to rededicate ourselves to the continued struggle for the liberation of African people worldwide."

people to respect their history and to hold themselves in high esteem. *Kemet* and the *Huasteca* Sacred Wisdom of Ancient Egypt, creators of math, science, architecture, writing, governance, astronomy, medicine, art, and so much more. The *Kemetite* people amassed great wisdom that was left as instructions written in *Medew Neitche* (Divine Speech) or what Europeans call hieroglyphs.

One place we can examine this ancient Kemetite wisdom is in "Selections From The *Huasteca* Sacred Wisdom of Ancient Egypt," retranslated by Dr. Maulana Karenga. The *Huasteca* gives insight into how our ancestors viewed life, death, human relations, marriage, parenting, love, God, family, and the standards of moral and ethical conduct. Reading these spiritual texts elicits strong feelings in and for African people in a most profound and spiritual way. Peruse these texts from "The *Huasteca*. The Book of Ptah Hoteb."

Al Gore's backslaps again

By R.D. Davis

Al Gore is continuing the Democrats' brainwashing of black voters.

"National Review" magazine reported that Vice President Gore recently told the NAACP in a speech that his father, the late Tennessee Senator Albert Gore, lost his election bid in 1970 because he supported civil rights legislation. His black audience believed him.

The "Sacramento Bee" reported Vice President Gore, who said that he has barely won National Baptist Convention, lauded his father's "battle" through the 1940s, 50s and 60s for civil rights. His black audience believed him. "He supported the Voting Rights Act of 1965 before we had re-election," said Gore of his father. "But his conscience won, and he taught me that it was more important than any election." Yeah, right.

What is the truth? What is a myth? And what is a bald-faced lie? The truth is that Albert Gore, Sr. did vote for the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (see the "Congressional Quarterly" voting records, May 28, 1965). The myth, which is implied, is that Republicans unilaterally voted against the Act. The truth is that the Voting Rights Act of 1965 received overwhelming support from Republicans (more so than the Democrats) in both houses of Congress, with 82 percent Republican support in the House of Representatives and 94% in the Senate.

The Senate vote for the Voting Rights Act was 77 to 19, with Democrats voting 47 to 17 in favor and Republicans 30 to 2 in favor. Among those voting against the Voting Rights Act of 1965 were 17 southern Democrats, including President Bill Clinton's political mentor, J. William Fulbright of Arkansas.

Now for the lie, which is definitely implied by Vice President Gore: that Albert Gore, Sr. voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The truth is that the elder Gore was a key player in the 74-day filibuster that delayed and intended to weaken the Act. As a matter of fact, all of the southern Democrats voted against the Act in the Senate and all but 11 of 103 southern Democrats in the House.

The Republicans don't always get the credit they deserve when it comes to civil

rights. Civil rights activist Andrew Young wrote in his autobiography "An Easy Burden" that "The southern segregationists were all Democrats, and it was the Republicans who could effectively influence the appointment of federal judges in the South." Mr. Young admitted that the best civil rights judges were Republicans appointed by President Dwight Eisenhower, and were "among the many unsung heroes of the civil rights movement."

Another implied myth is that Republicans unilaterally voted against the Voting Rights Act of 1964. The truth is that without the Republicans' efforts, no such bill would have been passed. "Congressional Quarterly" reported that, in the House, 61 percent of Democrats (152 to 96) voted for the bill, as opposed to 80 percent of Republicans (138 to 34). In the Senate, 69 percent of Democrats (46 to 21) voted for passage along with 82 percent of Republicans (27 to 6).

One of the reasons Gore, Sr. lost his election to Republican Bill Brock may have been Gore's vote against amending the Constitution to permit prayer in public schools. As far as his record on civil rights goes, Gore, Sr. was definitely not the martyr for black rights as his son tries to portray him. By Andrew Young's own admission, the elder Gore was a segregationist and not a champion for civil rights.

Here is Albert Gore Sr.'s legacy on civil rights: He did vote for the Voting Act of 1965, but was against the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Ostensibly, it was acceptable for black people to vote for him, but not to eat at the same restaurant with him.

Al Gore, Jr. knows he has to perpetuate the civil rights deception and outright lies to ensure that blacks will continue to be used to further the socialist and secular humanist agendas of the Democratic Party. God forbid blacks knew the truth about what the party really stood for.

Think about it. If the Democratic Party has to continue to lie and deceive you for your support, what has it to hide? A lot, my friend—a whole lot.

R.D. Davis is a writer and radio talk show host

Elvis? Hitler? or Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.?

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

If the voting booth closed and the ballots were counted today for Time Magazine's "Person of the Century" either Elvis Presley or Adolph Hitler would be runaway winners over Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Both men each have nearly doubled the number of votes that King has gotten for Time Magazine's top spot. Since Time announced its national poll for "Person of the Century" earlier this year, King's vote total has barely budged. The editors insist that the poll is just that, a poll, and they will make and announce their final selection in December.

But the fact that he has barely made the top ten list tells much about how little the towering contributions King has made to social change in this century are appreciated. A vote for King would have less to do with the editors at Time than more to do with the millions of people who benefit from his work in civil rights, peace and justice. Still, Time's "Person of the Century" derby is a priceless opportunity to educate young persons and renew adults of King's eternal legacy of peace and social justice and the need to continue the struggle to fulfill that legacy.

Yet, King's contributions remain in danger of being shoved to the wayside of history. Much of the public rightly labels him as a "black leader," a "civil rights" leader, or say that he simply irritated Gandhi.

These are huge myths. King came to be a statesman, a practitioner of Gandhi's teachings of non-violent resistance and non-accommodation to injustice. But, he took his teacher's message and refined, broadened and stretched it into a global moral imperative for all humankind. That moral imperative stretched way beyond the limits

"Do not terrorize people for the sake of you, God will punish you accordingly. If anyone lives by such means, God will take bread from his or her mouth. If one says I shall be rich by such means, [he] she will eventually have to say my money was snatched me."

This passage continues: "If one says I will rob another, he will end up being robbed himself. The plans of men and women do not always come to pass, for in the end it is the will of God which prevails. Therefore, one should live in peace with others and they will come and willingly give gifts which another would take from them through fear."

Written about five thousand years ago, the wisdom of these words of instruction should cause African people to reflect on their significance as we struggle to create a greater good for our race.

The wisdom of our ancestors should give us the inspiration to rededicate ourselves to the continued struggle for the liberation of African people worldwide.

As a race of people our survival and development is dependent on each other. As I have repeated many times in these columns, we have a responsibility and duty to our brothers and sisters to build institutions based on African spirituality, ethics, and morals, and give back that which the Creator has given us: All Life, Power, and Health, like the African Forever.

I urge all African people to take a meditative moment and look deeply inside ourselves as a people. Let us restore what the ancient Black people of *Kemet* called Maat: Divine Order, Harmony, Balance, Truth, Justice, Righteousness, and Reciprocity. We had, and lived by Maat before the coming of European colonial and ethical conduct. Reading these spiritual texts elicits strong feelings in and for African people in a most profound and spiritual way. Peruse these texts from "The *Huasteca*. The Book of Ptah Hoteb."

If we did it once, we can do it again!

When he formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957, King set the moral high ground for the infant modern-day civil rights movement. It was classic good versus evil.

Many White Americans were sickened by the news stories of baton-wielding Southern sheriffs, fire hoses, police dogs, and Klan violence unleashed against peaceful black protesters. King made it possible, even obligatory, for millions of persons throughout the world to condemn racial segregation as immoral and indefensible.

The Civil Rights movement spurred students and workers in Asia, Africa, and Latin America to oppose their military strongmen, dictators and demagogues in their own countries. Nelson Mandela has repeatedly said that he owes a profound debt of gratitude to King.

Mandela is not the only major leader to say that. Caesar Chavez, a leader much deserving of praise and gratitude for his selfless contributions to peace and social justice, made his greatest mark as champion of the farmworkers and labor organizing battles. Chavez never hesitated to admit that King taught and inspired him. Nearly all of the main anti-war leaders expressed their debt of gratitude to King. They recognized that his brave and outspoken opposition to the Vietnam war and militarism gave a huge boost to the anti-war movement.

With due respect to Elvis, and (ugh) Hitler, this is what we should tell the editors at Time magazine when they pick their "Person of the Century." Write Time Magazine, contact letters@time.com or fax: (212) 522-8949.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson is a nationally syndicated columnist.

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Founded in 1981

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How to reach us: City News [11] Midway Ave. S.E., Jackson, MS 39202

Editorial (771) 448-1111 Fax (771) 448-1112

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BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

NEWARK — The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) hosts a free workshop and seminar for small businesses involved in exporting products at Two Gateway Center, 10 a.m. (973) 645-2434.

NEWARK — The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) hosts a free workshop and seminar on small business being Y2K compliant at Two Gateway Center, 1 p.m. (973) 645-2434.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The New Jersey State Bar Foundation hosts a free seminar on small claims court at the New Jersey Law Center, 7 p.m. 1-800-FREE-LAW.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

CRANFORD — Union County College offers a course in effective business writing, 8:30 a.m. (908) 709-7600.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

COLUMBIA, MD. — The MMG Ventures, LP hosts its first venture conference at the Columbia Sheraton Hotel. Call 1-800-538-2817 for information.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

CRANFORD — Union County College offers a course in retail travel and lodging, 7:20 p.m. (908) 709-7600.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

NEWARK — SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) hosts a seminar on starting and managing your own business at the SCORE Office at Two Gateway Center, 9 a.m. (973) 645-3582.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

CRANFORD — Union County College offers a course travel agency operations and management, 7:20 p.m. (908) 709-7600.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

NEW YORK — The New York-New York Minority Purchasing Council, Inc. hosts Seventh Annual Partnership Awards Gala at the Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers, 6 p.m. (212) 651-1000.

ALBUQUERQUE — The Union County Economic Development Corporation hosts a workshop in developing your own home page on the Internet, 9 a.m. (908) 527-1166.

National council postpones vote on minority business ownership

PHOENIX (AP) — For 27 years, a national business council has required 51 percent minority ownership for a company to be certified as "minority-owned." Last week the board of the National Minority Supplier Development Council — comprising 80 members from Fortune 500 companies — put off deciding whether to lower the threshold to 30 percent. The change would have dropped the requirement for large companies on a case-by-case basis.

Only firms already certified as minority-owned would be eligible for the lower requirement. The council, which has 3,500 corporate members nationwide, considers this the means to help minority-owned businesses attract capital and grow big enough to compete with large national and international suppliers. In 1997, member corporations secured procurement contracts that exceeded \$36.1 billion, the council said.

Many corporations try to buy a majority of their goods from minority-owned businesses, either voluntarily or to comply with government requirements.

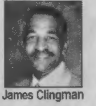


Ray Arvizu, chairman of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Supporters say the lower requirement is needed for minority-owned companies to grow, but opponents argue it would favor big companies at the expense of small ones. Members of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce praised the decision to delay the vote. "We're ecstatic," said Chamber of Commerce chairman Ray Arvizu. "We would have opposed the change. It is too vague what the overall impact would be, and a lot of

businesses were not at the table." The chamber received the proposal on Oct. 4, which it gave them time to study it sufficiently, he said. The problem was not simply insufficient information, chamber president George Herrera said. "The problem here was one of exclusion. The vehicle was being driven by corporate America and didn't have sufficient participation of minority America," he said. While the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce opposed the proposal, other groups such as the National Association of Black Auto Suppliers supported it, saying businesses need capital to grow. Mahasen Samaryayya, chairman and CEO of Interface Data Systems, says his is one such business. Samaryayya founded the company in 1991 with four employees and now employs 260, with annual sales last year of \$18 million, he said. The company needs more money to invest in capital, research and development and buildings, to grow into a Fortune 500 company, and it recently acquired an Ohio-based company, for combined sales of \$30 million annually.

Empty victories



James Cline

Another boycotting, letter-writing, fixing, protesting, rationalizing, explaining, apologizing episode has mercifully come to an end. I heard brothers and sisters calling in on the radio shouting things like, "We won" and "We brought them to their knees" and asking "Tom Joyner to play." "I'm black and I'm proud." I could hardly resist the temptation to call in and ask him to play another James Brown song that says, "Let's take over and get some land."

Many of us are celebrating, sending in for our discounts. The enemy has waved a white flag. I won't mention their name. I'm sure you know about them. We are the victors, let the shopping begin!

As I followed these events I kept asking, "How easily will they get off" and, "What will black people gain from this latest farce?" The results are in; we can go home, sit and await the next crisis.

The infamous company can go back to business as usual and make even more money than it did before this event. We got our ten percent discounts, and they got more business. And, all they had to say was "I'm sorry." Sure, they will give some money to a black-owned ad agency and probably create some slick advertisements for television, as Denny's and Texaco have. That's a small price to pay.

Here's the real deal: Rather than get bent out of shape about the company, the time and money spent doing something "against" that company should be spent "for" our own people. We should use our resources to help ourselves.

I don't want anyone's discounts. I want to buy computers from black people. Let them put \$1 million or so into a black capital fund for investment in black-owned computer businesses.

More slick advertisement is nice; it helps pay some of the bills at a black ad agency. But most of that profit goes to the television networks, not to the black masses

there. Apologies? They can keep them. What good are they to us? Now they are even using this game against us. Jesse Helms demanded an apology from Carol Mosley Braun for protesting against the Confederate flag. What a joke. Empty victories occur so frequently these days, they are mesmerizing us. We actually believe we have won something. But, the other side always wins because of our relentless quest to take our money to businesses other than our own.

It matters little that they get caught doing or saying something bad about us (whether it's true or not). We still end up getting mad, ranting and raving, demanding what we call retribution, and then shortly going back to them. Who has the victory in that scenario? Even more ridiculous is the black E! issue in Koolhaas Cookie advertisements. A spokesperson for the company said the addition of the black off was not in reaction to the lawsuit against him. He said it's merely a reflection of what our society is becoming. Did black people just arrive in this country? The last time I checked we were here from the jump. Or, is it just that they have not noticed us until now?

Let's get serious

If we are serious about these things, why don't we simply withhold our money for good? Why must we always give them a way out? Is it because we are such a forgiving people, because we just like the convenience they provide, or do we dislike seeing a brother or sister with a business that does well?

From now on, for issues like these, let's call on those who deal with them every day. Let's call Ken Bridges and Al Wellington of the MATAH Network. Let them negotiate the deal. What the heck call James Brown. He's been telling us how to handle these situations for years.

Campaign announced to help 1,000 small businesses in Africa

WASHINGTON — Reverend Leon Sullivan, Minister from Philadelphia and chairman and convenor of the highly successful African-American Summits recently announced an "Invest in Africa Week" for churches, organizations and individuals in the United States to help support 1,000 small businesses in Africa in the next several years.

This is the first effort of its kind known to give African Americans and Friends of Africa a practical opportunity to invest in the business development of African businesses. The investments through a Peoples Investment Fund for Africa (PIFA) are in five-year



Rev. Leon Sullivan

promissory notes with annual interest to investors. Investments are being received in denominations of \$500 - \$1,000 - \$2,500 - up

to \$5,000. It is Reverend Sullivan's goal that by the end of 1999, 1,000 African Americans and Friends of Africa will have joined as investors in the exciting new "Invest in Africa" campaign, and that this number will grow to 10,000 within the next several years.

The progress of the PIFA and the "Invest in Africa" campaign will be announced at special Regional pre-African-American Summit meetings in different parts of the country in January and February of the year 2000.

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Some people are of the opinion that all kinds of strange things might happen as a result of the millennium bug. We are of the opinion that, because of our diligence and hard work, nothing is likely to happen to disturb your ability to transact business with us. Some people suggest that the public should hold substantial amounts of extra cash over the millennium change date. We suggest that you leave it on deposit where it will remain safe. In addition to the fact that you won't lose a penny's interest on your money, we envision that you'll enjoy the same ease of access to the money in the future as you have in the past.

The fact is, Investors Savings Bank is where your money is safest. And in the unlikely event of a disruption caused by the millennium bug, we've been saying all along: your deposits are insured to the fullest extent of the law by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Don't worry. Celebrate. Investors Savings Bank is looking forward to doing business as usual with you throughout the remainder of this year and into the next millennium.

This constitutes a Year 2000 Readiness Disclosure as defined in the Year 2000 Information and Readiness Act.

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RELIGION
CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

EAST ORANGE — Park Avenue
Catholic Church hosts a three night
V2K. Revised through November 12,
7:30 p.m. (973) 674-4578.BROOKLYN, NY — Pilgrim Revival
Baptist Church hosts an evening of
singing and devotion at Bethany Bas-
tard Church through November 11,
7:15 p.m. (718) 455-6400.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

NEWARK — Bethany Baptist Church
offers a prayer service and singles
ministry 7:30 p.m. (973) 823-8161.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

SELLEVILLE — Christ Episcopal
Church hosts a murder mystery play.
Call (973) 751-0619 for information.Summit will
address
AIDS in
Newark

NEWARK — Did you know that black people make up 56 percent of all AIDS cases in New Jersey? The New Jersey HIV/AIDS Partnership and the New Jersey State Health Department know that establishing a dialogue with the Black faith community is vital to alleviating this crisis.

Toward that end, The Balm In Gilead cordially invites everyone to attend a luncheon meeting to introduce and solicit your support for our new program, the New Jersey Black Church HIV/AIDS Initiative, conducted in partnership with the Newark District of the A.M.E. Church (Project Faith), the Plainfield and Vicinity Clergy Association and the New Jersey Baptist Missionary Association. The luncheon will take place Friday, November 12, 1999, at 11 a.m. at the Ramada Inn Newark Airport.

Funded by the New Jersey AIDS Partnership, the initiative is designed to create and strengthen Black Church HIV/AIDS programs. Our ultimate goal is to support black Churches in New Jersey to become community centers for HIV prevention, compassion and advocacy. For more information about the event call (212) 730-2551.

Prayer
CornerGod is Our
Refuge

Hagar wandered in the wilderness along with her child. They had no water left, so she wept; then she cast her son under a shrub and left him there to die, as she continued to weep. But God heard the voice of the child, dispatched an angel, opened Hagar's eyes, and she saw a well of water (Genesis 21:17). God was there! And, God commanded Abraham to slay his son, but when he stretched forth his hand, the angel of the Lord said: STOP! Abraham lifted up his eyes, looked, and there was a ram there for the sacrifice (Genesis 22:13). God was there! God is here today, in the midst of our situations. He will remove the obstacles. "Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain," saith the Lord (Isaiah 40:4).

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City News
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Daisy Bates, 84, staunch activist
in desegregation of schoolsDaisy Bates led a change in
desegregating schools

By Gilda Rogers

"The winds of change," stormed across America during an era that would significantly

change the lives of black Americans. Daisy Bates played a vital role in this change, when she took nine Arkansas students, who later become known as "The Little Rock Nine" under her wing on September 3, 1957, and set off a battle call on the education front.

Bates, the civil rights activist and a former president of the Arkansas state NAACP died November 5, at the age of 84. It

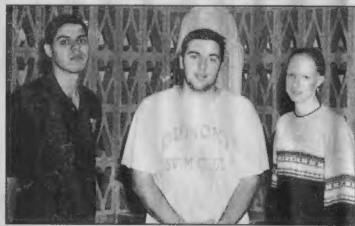
**It was Bates who
coached the
students on how to
face the unruly mob
of whites.**

was her lead, which students Charlotte Walls, Jefferson Thomas, Elizabeth Eckford, Melba Pattilo, Ernest Green, Thelma Mothershead, Terrance

Roberts, Minnijean Brown, and Gloria Ray followed. Bates was a champion in the cause of desegregating Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. The scene became a war zone with the angry white crowd determined not to allow the nine students to enter the school. It was Bates who coached the students on how to face the unruly mob of whites.

President Eisenhower was forced to call out the National Guard to quell crowd. Over the years she became the recipient of over 200 citations and award accolades. Bates published a book in 1962 entitled, "The Long Shadow of Little Rock," which won the American Book Award in 1968.

President Clinton also a former governor of Arkansas praised Bates as a heroine upon hearing about her death. Bates' body will lie in state at the Capitol on Monday.

Caldwell College reward students
contributions to church, community

L-r Edward Rivera, Lucas Zarate and Stephanie Morosco

CALDWELL — Caldwell College recently awarded several Campus Ministry Youth Scholarships totaling more than \$6000 to recognize young people who have performed outstanding service for their churches and communities.

For the 1999-2000 academic year the college awarded a total of three new scholarships averaging between \$1,000 and \$2,000 annually to freshman Edward Rivera and Lucas Zarate of Paterson and Stephanie Morosco of Hackensack.

The scholarships are renewable for four years and are awarded based on meeting specific academic and community service requirements. The three new scholarships are in addition to three scholarships that were awarded to three students who

were the original scholarship recipients when the award was established last year. The original recipients included Danielle Jurasek and Michael Scime of Bergenfield and Frank Salerno of North Haledon.

"Educational institutions routinely reward and recognize students who excel in academics and athletics," said Father Michael Okere Caldwell College campus minister.

"We wanted to provide an incentive to encourage spiritual volunteerism and community service."

The college's administration

has expressed a willingness to continue to reward and encourage students who display interest in religious and community service.

Rivera has been an active member of the St. Anthony Youth Group in his community, while Zarate has been an active role model among his peers.

Morosco has assisted in fundraising and volunteer activities at the Bergen Pine Nursing Home. She has also participated in pro-life marches and organized baby showers for unwed mothers at the Severa Sources Foundation in Ramsey. In 1998, she received The Parish Youth Award.

POSITIVELY BLACK

'We are family'

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

"The family in Africa is always extended. You would never refer to your cousin as 'cousin' because that would be an insult. So your cousins are your sisters and brothers. Your nieces are your children. Your uncles are your fathers. Your aunts are your mothers. Children are also encouraged to call other people outside the family mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers."

I watched the Ali A. Maru's documentary, "The Africans," on public television, and I was intrigued when he stated that throughout the continent there is no word for "cousin." Indigenous African cultures believed in the extended family, age, grade and social structures. Everybody was viewed as family: mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers. As I reflected on my childhood, I realized that part of that tradition has been held over. I had cousins who I was encouraged to call "uncle" or "aunt" so and so. And, we had family friends who I was allowed to call "aunt" or "uncle."

There was a sense of connection and family. Many of us was nostalgic about the so called good ol' days when there was more communal interaction in the neighborhoods. When neighbors could reprimand and chastise us for our own good, and our parents and family expressed gratitude for their taking responsibility to teach, admonish and correct us. These are examples of the African way, extended family, collective responsibility, mutual aid and reciprocity.

As we enter a new century we ought to look back on the bridges that got us over, both in this hemisphere and in mother Africa. We know which things work, what extended family means and how it benefits all of us. Yet, we appear unwilling to hold on to those beneficial things that we know work. We have, as Davis Smiley said in a talk I heard him give in Atlanta,

"gone too far, spent too much and stayed too long." He was referring to our abandoning the very traditions that helped us weather the storms of slavery, oppression, terrorism and white supremacy.

Africans have always been communal and spiritual people. We have always recognized what the Yoruba call "ashe," the Bantu call "ngiso" and the Luo-speaking people call "Jok," the divine energy within all humans. Javanza Kunjufu pointed out that Africans are xenophilous people, which means we are accepting of and comfortable with strangers. When Eurasians and Europeans went into Africa they were welcomed. For Africans throughout the continent, the extended community was the focal point of their existence. While the focus on the group's collective emotional and economic needs may have stifled what some may call material progress, it's interesting to note that there was no homelessness, abandonment, unattached, unprotected or unsupported widows or orphans.

The extended family was the root and source of strength for the village, tribe and nation. Not only were there no orphans, but there were also no jails or prisons. Social deviancy was dealt with outright by the elders, the community and if need be the secret societies. We need to look at how this system can be replicated and restored throughout the Diaspora. I am well aware that in America the nuclear family is under relentless assault by socio-economic forces we don't control.

Let's be more inclusive. Let's look out for our elders whether they are relatives or not. That is what got us over when there was no DHS, DYFS, DPW, foster care or nursing homes. We took in kids whose parents were unable to care for them due to separation, death, illness or misfortune. If we did it then with less money we can surely do it now. We are family.



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Why you suddenly need to care about area codes.

Starting November 29, 1999, everyone must dial 1 + the area code for all calls between 973 and 201, and between 908 and 732.

What's new about that? Actually, for most calls you dial between area codes you already do this. But for some people right along the 973/201 and 908/732 borders, dialing only 7 digits was required.

Now everyone will have to dial 1 + the area code for all calls to different area codes.

So, why is this happening now? Well, due to the increasing number of communications devices like fax machines, beepers, cellular phones, and computer modems, there is an ever growing demand for telephone numbers. Changing the way you dial will provide additional numbers to satisfy that demand.

Don't worry, rates aren't changing — a local call is still a local call, and a toll call is still a toll call.

Please remember to re-program any automatic dialing equipment or services you may use to dial a number in a different area code.

If you have any questions call 1-800-409-8773, M-F, 9 AM to 5 PM. Bell Atlantic is here to help. That's something that will never change.



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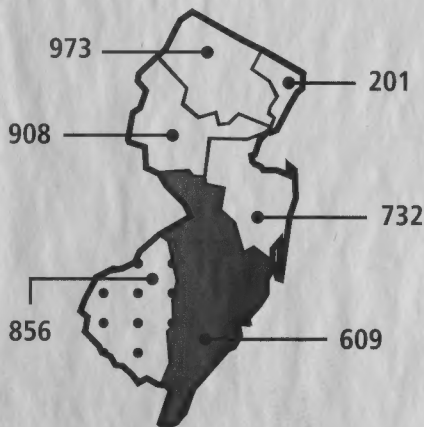
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(973) 221, 229, 246, 270, 291, 296, 329, 337, 342, 343, 368, 381, 405, 438, 440, 441, 457, 460, 475, 487, 488, 489, 498, 507, 508, 518, 525, 527, 528, 531, 559, 587, 641, 646, 651, 695, 703, 712, 752, 791, 794, 796, 797, 804, 807, 814, 842, 843, 845, 883, 896, 909, 931, 932, 933, 935, 939, 955, 964, 968, 991, 996, 997, 998

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(732) 204, 218, 221, 226, 231, 232, 233, 234, 252, 253, 266, 272, 276, 281, 301, 306, 317, 322, 333, 359, 412, 429, 444, 470, 474, 486, 490, 497, 518, 523, 526, 533, 546, 547, 559, 561, 575, 580, 587, 588, 595, 604, 626, 630, 644, 647, 653, 654, 655, 658, 666, 668, 685, 696, 704, 707, 709, 719, 722, 725, 731, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 766, 769, 781, 789, 791, 822, 848, 860, 862, 874, 877, 889, 894, 903, 904, 925, 931, 941, 947, 953, 956, 960, 986, 991, 992, 997



Local Briefs

HEART Grant Program funds local organizations and artists

ELIZABETH — The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders announced the organizations and individual artists who received funding under the 1999 HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands). The HEART Grant program was established to serve as a catalyst in strengthening the County's exemplary community of non-profit organizations, artists and scholars enhancing their capacity to provide innovative projects relating to history, the arts and the humanities. The following were recipients: Cranford Historic Society \$1,000; E'Port Presbyterian Center \$3,000; Elizabeth Plan \$1,000; Jean-Rae Turner \$2,100; St. Adalbert's Church \$1,000; Scotch-Plains Fanwood Art Association \$1,000; Accor-dance Theater, Inc. \$3,000; Van Frazier \$3,000; Music for All Seasons, Inc. \$5,000; NJ Center for Visual Arts \$5,000; Arbor Chamber Music Society \$3,000.

First Night Newark to host reception and seeking volunteers

First Night Newark, Inc. is looking for volunteers to help create magic on Dec. 31. The visual and performing arts celebration is designed to welcome the New Year in a non-alcoholic and substance-free environment that revives the ancient tradition of marking the passage of time with art, ritual and festivity. On Monday, Nov. 15, the Board of Directors of First Night Newark will pay tribute to its past and present volunteers in a reception and ceremony from 6-8 p.m. at the Gateway Hilton opposite Penn Station in Newark. The reception will also serve as a recruiting event for those who are interested in being a volunteer for this year's First Night. Attendees will have the opportunity to win two free round-trip airline tickets to anywhere in the Continental United States and the Caribbean compliments of Continental Airlines.

Third Annual Masquerade Gala awards Pyramid Award recipients

NEWARK — Symphony Hall recently served as the venue for what has become noted as Newark's African American social event of the fall. The African American Heritage Parade Committee took the opportunity to present its coveted Pyramid Award to individuals whose contributions deserve the highest praise.

Co-Chairpersons for this event Hon. Gayle Chaneyfield-Jenkins and Hon. Bessie Walker Councilpersons-at-Large for the City of Newark are joining Hon. Wayne Smith, Council President of Irvington in support of the endeavor. The co-chairs issued the joint comment "As we embark upon the continual journey to rebuild our race and looking forward into the new millennium, we seek to enlist your patronage in this fundraiser."

Donald Bernard Sr. Chairman of the parade committee joined the co-chairs in presenting this year's Pyramid Awards. For Humanitarianism, Thomas Asley Esq. was awarded for his passion for peoples concern for equity and dedication to the preservation of humanity. Elliott Isibor was awarded for volunteerism. He has a record of selfless service showing compassion for all and a commitment to uplift those who are struggling and disenfranchised.

A posthumous award is being presented to Thad "Cowboy" Kettles



At top, Newark Police Director Joseph Santiago (left) and posthumously Thad "Cowboy" Kettles. At bottom, Elliott Isibor (left) and Thomas Asley. The men were honored at for the work in the community at the recent Masquerade Ball.

for his lifelong recreational contributions to Newark. His work con-

tributed to the human development of young and old while building

character. This devoted individual benefited his entire community. Newark Police Director Joseph Santiago was acknowledged for his contributions to enhance the quality of life in the states largest city. Through his leadership public safety is at an all time high, while the police force in mass is promoting good citizenship as a result of his example. Most importantly is his fairness to all, which is serving as a motivation for unity in his department and throughout Newark's mosaic population.

This Gala is a celebration of dignity, style and pride. As importantly, we are striving to stabilize the organization from the African American perspective. African American institutions are struggling to maintain, grow and develop throughout America. We are no different. We implore those who profess to make a difference to be part of this historical celebration," said Bernard.

The evening was filled with elegance, music, song, dance and an exquisite reception. The exciting Harold Melvin's Blue Notes and the fabulous Grace Little highlighted the evening. With performance and dancing in the Terrace Ballroom, Carrie Jackson and her Jazzin' All-Star Quartet provided music for the reception hour.

NAACP branch hosts artist Leroy Campbell at annual dinner

EDISON — With "Stepping Further Into the New Millennium" as this year's theme, on Saturday, November 13, the NAACP Metuchen-Edison Area Branch will host their 24th Annual Freedom Fund Awards Banquet. The black-tie affair will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Somerset, NJ.

The purpose of this annual event is three-fold: 1) to honor people and organizations who have made significant contributions to the community, 2) raise monies for the Metuchen-Edison Area Branch Scholarship Fund and 3) increase branch membership.

The award categories for this year's honorees are the S. B. Fuller Business and Professional Award, the Rosa Parks Community Service Award, the Marion Anderson Performing Arts Award, the Metuchen-Edison Area Branch Presidential Award and the Alexis Herman Labor Relations Award.

In addition to the awards ceremony, the gala affair will feature an exhibition of artwork by renowned artist, Leroy Campbell, who will be in attendance, a book-signing by George Davis, author of branches and a silent auction.

The annual Freedom Fund Awards Banquet is only one of the numerous events and activities in which the Metuchen-Edison Area Branch is involved - evidenced by their receiving the 1999 NAACP Outstanding Branch Recognition Award - Central NJ Area. And with their recently created web site (www.intcomputer.com/naacp/), the Branch believes its efforts to improve the educational, social, economic and political status of African Americans and other minority groups will be even more effective and far-reaching.

Local students vie to become a delegate for international children's summit

PLAINFIELD - Local students who visit New York Tri-State McDonald's Restaurants during October and November have the opportunity to become a Millennium Dreamers award delegate. Presented by McDonald's and The Walt Disney Co. in association with UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization), this global children's recognition program will showcase the outstanding community accomplishments of youths between the ages of 8 and 15.

Ultimately, 2000 Millennium Dreamers will be selected from around the world to receive a trip

to attend a global celebration and children's summit, May 8-10, 2000 at the Walt Disney World Resort near Orlando, Florida. All delegates will receive an expense-paid trip for themselves and a guardian to attend the three-day event. During the global children's summit, the 2000 delegates will participate in an interactive symposium as well as a ceremony where the Millennium Dreamers will be recognized for their outstanding contributions.

"Local McDonald's Restaurants are committed to programs that encourage children to become involved in their communities,"

said Ana Madan-Russo, president of the McDonald's New York Tri-State Owners and Operators. "Millennium Dreamers not only recognizes children's accomplishments but also gets young students excited about how their contributions can make a difference in their future."

Panel of expert judges from across the globe will select the final 2000 Millennium Dreamers delegates with selection criteria based on the creativity, inspirational value and impact of the contribution in the community and beyond.

Recognition will be given in

two age categories: 8-11 and 12-15 year-olds. Every student who is nominated will receive an official certificate of merit from the Millennium Dreamers Global Recognition Program presented by McDonald's and Disney.

In addition to nomination forms available in all McDonald's Restaurants forms are also available in local elementary and secondary schools through select youth and community organizations; and at www.mcdonalds.com or www.disney.com. The deadline for the Millennium Dreamers nomination forms is November 30, 1999.

Jon Corzine with his campaign manager, **Christy Davis, Esq.** Ms. Davis is the first African-American woman to serve as campaign manager for a U.S. Senate candidate in New Jersey. Ms. Davis is a graduate of Rutgers Law School and served as State Director for Sen. Frank Lautenberg, as well as former Chief of Staff for the late Sen. Wymona Lipman.

"I BELIEVE IN COMMUNITY;
I DON'T ACCEPT THE DIVISIONS
BETWEEN URBAN AND SUBURBAN,
BLACK AND WHITE, LATINO AND ASIAN,
NORTH AND SOUTH, PH.D. AND
NO DEGREE. WE ARE ONE SOCIETY
AND WE HAVE TO ADVANCE TOGETHER."

Excerpt from Jon Corzine announcement to run for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate, September 23, 1999

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Link's Annual Fundraiser, a tasty side of Newark

By Beverly Harden
Contributing Writer

What a night of performance and entertainment. "A Taste of Newark," touted as the Link Community School's annual fundraiser, recently held at the Gateway Hilton proved to be more than food tasting and schmoozing.

What makes Link's school so special? Chantley Brantley, an eighth grade student at Link said, "I really have grown and changed since attending Link. Everyone has helped me to mature out of my adolescence now I can do things on my own, the lessons I've learned are that I have to work hard to earn what I want and that I can do it, but only if I try."

According to Bill Kurtz, principal of the school, 1998-99 was an exceptional year at Link.

"True to our mission to provide students with an excellent middle school education, and to connect them to the finest high school."

The motive for sponsoring the event "A Taste of Newark," was to increase exposure of the school and to celebrate 30 years of achievement and to highlight community development. Just to name a few of Newark's finest ethnic restaurants that helped to make this night a success were: A Taste of Soul, The Newark Club, The Priory and Palate Pleasure.

The program directors were Lisa Block and JoAnn Gregoli. Started as Project Link, this community school opened in 1969 near the epicenter of the

Newark riots to counter the abandonment and neglect scarifying the city. Today Link still follows its original mission: to give Newark adolescents at a crucial turning point in their lives an exceptional middle school experience aimed at long-term success.

Link is a seventh and eighth grade school with an enrollment of 125 primarily African American students. It is a school which caters to those students who are fall through the cracks in the elementary grades and are from low-income families.

The school is also unique in its balanced admissions policy, selecting a cross-section of students below grade level, average, and above average to make a difference in the lives of children at all academic levels.

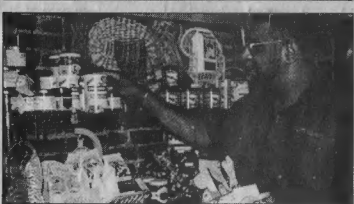
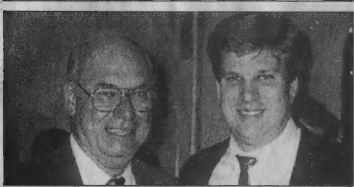
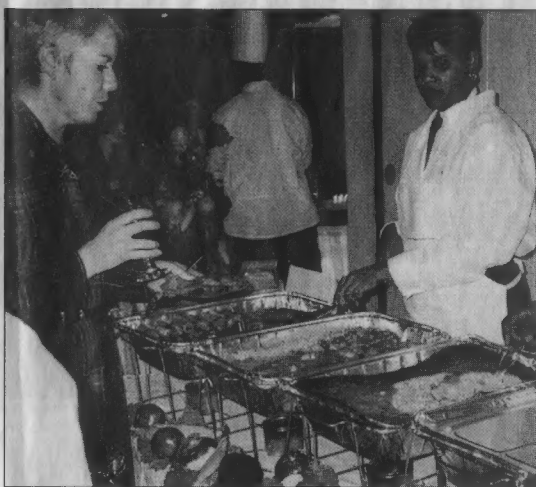
Left top: Principal Bill Kurtz poses with development director Cathy Lewis (left) and Sister Veritas, chairperson of the Board of Directors.

Right top: A Taste of Soul chef and Link alumnus Carey Hamilton serves up her cuisine.

Left middle: Board of Trustees member Andrew Popp poses with principal Kurtz.

Right lower: Zairae Mitchell (left); Joli McTerrel (center); and Jasmine Salaam (right) provided the entertainment for the evening.

Lower left: Michael James, pictured here in his restaurant, was one of the restaurant owners whose authentic and enticing cuisine helped make the evening event a success. Located at 55 New Street in Newark, Palate Pleasure serves up vegetarian specialties and an array of soups and salad delicacies to go along with the many other specialties.



A different spin when it comes to dining

By Sakina Spruell
Contributing Writer

Named after the Queen of Sheba, Makeda Ethiopian Restaurant in New Brunswick offers an exquisite cultural dining experience. The atmosphere and the dishes are full of enlightenment to Ethiopian culture. For a truly different experience you can sit on a mahogany wood-stool at a Mosaab, the Ethiopian name for a low-basket-like table, and share food for four on one platter-sized china plate. In line with Ethiopian tradition, your food will be lined with a thin layer of bread for you to use in place of a utensil. If you'd rather, you can eat in the main dining room complete with mahogany tables, chairs and a booth lining the wall. You may then request separate plates and forks, but why be so conventional!

Some of the food sounds familiar, such as chicken, lamb and collard greens, but the look and tastes are so unique, you keep coming back for more. Doro Wibe is boneless pieces of chicken, sautéed with Ethiopian herbs and sauces that make this other wise ordinary dish very distinguishing. For soul food eaters, there is Gomen Wat. These fresh collard greens are not seasoned with the south's traditional fat back, instead Gomen Wat is sautéed with onion, garlic, ginger tomatoes and Ethiopian spices.

The woodtick pillars and brass accents, coupled with the restaurant's gift shop, which can be viewed through a glass window while dining, makes eating at Makeda Ethiopian Restaurant a very valued, enjoyable experience.

Photographs of the Blue Marlin by Sean Gutheridge.
Photos of Makeda Ethiopian Restaurant by Pablo Tinto.



Right: The outside of Blue Marlin, Restaurant in Bradley Beach, which serves an array of seafood dishes and Jamaican cuisine. Center: The interior of Makeda's. Left: Inside the Blue Marlin dining area. Top: Four friends bask in the evening atmosphere at Makeda's.



CityLife

East Orange, Xerox build bridge to the future

By Carl Chase
Staff Writer

EAST ORANGE — What Clifton Harper of East Orange does for living, few could have imagined possible just over a decade ago — he can print real books in small batches, even a half-dozen or less.

And these high-tech printing skills come from a model welfare-to-work program right here in East Orange.

Harper is among the first graduating class of Docutech Training Center, the first welfare-to-work program of its kind.

Customers can use the center for their copying and printing needs, just like any neighborhood Sir Speedy, and help former recipients of public assistance make their move to independence as dictated by welfare reform.

Students get close attention for the three-week course thanks in part to the very small classes: only five or six to a class. They put in five intensive days each week, in classes running five to six hours long without a lunch break.

"We show them the basics, starting from turning on the machine," said Docutech Instructor Nelson Gonzalez, "and when they leave they can pro-

duce a book, nicely bound and everything."

With that said Gonzalez, an account coordinator with Xerox Business Services, produced a thick, square-bound manual with extras, including colorful covers and tab dividers. "This is what our customers are looking for."

Xerox, innovator of the modern copy machine and the Windows-type computer interface that made PCs user-friendly for most everyone, has done it again along with the local officials who took the risk of doing something thoroughly innovative. Xerox reportedly donated about \$100,000 worth of equipment to the Docutech training center at 7 Glenwood Ave. in a public-private partnership with the City of East Orange.

"I'll be happy to talk to anyone who wants to replicate this program for their city," East Orange Mayor Robert Bowser said at a recent open-house celebration.

"We talk a lot about Best Practices, and this one would be a great program for any city," Bowser said.

"Welfare to work is great," he added. "But if you can't get some training and get a job, you're still in the same boat."

As welfare-to-work programs go, this one in East Orange is the



Docutech Instructor Nelson Gonzalez, an account coordinator for Xerox Business Services, explains the controls to Mayor Robert Bowser.

benchmark, said William R. McDermott, senior vice president of Xerox. The global corporation "locked onto" welfare-to-work as a priority in May 1997, McDermott said.

He has since developed a friendship with Mayor Bowser, who gave him the "wings to the city," a gold eagle lapel pin normally worn only by members of Bowser's administration, before an audience of several dozen community members and city and Xerox officials.

Xerox was one of the first corporations to start welfare-to-work programs. The one in East Orange opened last April.

East Orange Assistant Human Services Director Carolyn Monel, who helped develop the center from the idea stage, said the center already has about 17 customers, most not all of them departments of the city itself.

But the center's capacity is enormous. Like any kinkos or Office Max store, it can deliver most any kind of printing, design or high-speed copying work to an unlimited number of customers.

In fact, Monel invited the 40 or so community members in attendance to encourage their organizations to "Please support the Docutech center."

Linda Smith, an East Orange mother of three, was among the first class of welfare-to-work students who graduated from the program last May. "It's wonderful," she said. "Like being in a family."

A former homemaker, Smith had no computer skills when she started but learned quickly.

Now she works for a major corporation in Newark's



Clifton Harper, like many graduates, enjoys a high-tech job with Xerox. His right hand holds an old book that was falling to pieces. In his left hand is a brand-new, hardcover digital replica.

Gateway One building. Among her duties is computer-aided research to find the rightful recipient of letters and packages from among the company's thousands of employees. The company asked not to be identified.

"We get lots of mail from brokerage houses," said her boss, who is also an East Orange resident. "So you certainly need to

get these things taken care of in time, by law. She has the deductive skills, and she also brings her life skills to the team. I recommend these graduates to all corporations, absolutely."

Harper, soon after graduating the program in the spring, learned to use Xerox's even more advanced system called Digibatch.



William R. McDermott, senior vice president and worldwide general manager of Xerox Global Document Services.

Harper, who went to Barringer High in Newark, can take tired, yellowed and torn old books and create brand new replicas for major retailers and other companies.

Harper works on Xerox's account with Baker & Taylor Publishers, a corporation that produces books on demand.

Mos ly, he reproduces older, out-of-print titles that need to be scanned page by page. He manipulates the existing pages electronically, if necessary, and finally prints out brand-new replicas that can be better than the originals.

"Old-fashioned offset printing will never go away," Harper said. "But this is the technology of the future. It has a lot of potential for the Web."



Carolyn Monel, East Orange assistant director of human services, shares her delight with community members and city officials.

Prison forum tackles 'criminal' justice

Continued from Page A1

(and probably one of the most prominent experts on prisons) said the United States "violates every United Nations covenant and treaty that it has signed" on prisoners' rights. The audience of several dozen murmured its agreement, unanimously.

Boycott Crime is the first community coalition to meet regularly with the state Department of Corrections, the first to demonstrate at Corrections headquarters and the first to mount a large-scale lobbying effort for prison reform. It has negotiated a policy of zero tolerance against jailhouse beatings. The Corrections Department put this in writing last April, addressed to all prison admin-

is building a network of community groups across the country to address the issue.

Many speakers were concerned primarily about the contact youth have with the police.

Many participants from the wider community spoke to the panel. One man remarked that prison construction has reached "epidemic" proportions. "It seems they're building prisons now for our 4th and 5th graders."

A woman said her son, 17, was beaten by a guard in the Youth Detention Center in Elizabeth, where officials attributed broken blood vessels in his eyes to her son's severe coughing. "Then I wanted to know how did he get those black rings around his eyes?"

A Newark teacher said she arrived at one Newark precinct to find her son had been moved to another.

Voters cut off program funds

Another woman asked for an assessment of the statewide public question, basically, shall lottery funds be used to fund prison programs?

Bey, Davis and James all said it would be harmful to prisoners, calling for a no vote. It would pass on election day 710.553-377.04, forcing an amendment to the state Constitution.

Soon, at the headquarters of the Oranges and Maplewood NAACP branch in East Orange on Nov. 1, the NAACP would oppose the cryptically-worded question. Black leaders called it a "racist" proposal.

"Voting yes would amend the state Constitution to disallow the use of lottery funds for any prison-related program, including youth and adult," said state Vice President James Harris.

"Housing them, rehabilitating, supervising, drug counseling, nothing for prisoners can benefit from the lottery," Harris said. "And I believe there are more poor people than rich people playing the lottery."

"Our hearts are deeply disturbed by the growing phenomenon of the Prison Industrial Complex."

— Lucius Walker
Executive director, IFCO

istrators. More than two-thirds of New Jersey's prisoners are black and the rest are mostly Hispanic.

Nine out of 10 prisoners (88.5 percent) held in the Essex County Juvenile Detention Facility are African-American. Out of 236 detainees, 94 percent are Hispanic and just 2.1 percent are white. Director Joe Clark has said previously.

"Our hearts are deeply disturbed by the growing phenomenon of the Prison Industrial Complex," said panelist Lucius Walker, executive director of the Inter-religious Foundation for Community Organization, which

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HeartBeat

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

PLAINFIELD — The Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center hosts a support group meeting for people who care for those with Alzheimer's disease 7 a.m. (202) 653-3186

NEW BRUNSWICK — Robert Wood Johnson Medical Center hosts a support group meeting for those living with cancer 7 p.m. (732) 235-7557

WOODBURGE — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at The Club at Woodbridge 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

EDISON — JFK Medical Center offers a course for women who are candidates for vaginal delivery after having a C-section section 7 p.m. (732) 552-1530

NEWARK — The City of Newark Department of Health and Human Services free flu and pneumonia shots at New Community Manor 10 a.m. (703) 733-7581

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center hosts a support group meeting for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients 6 p.m. (201) 915-2000

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

MONTCLAIR — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at the Montclair Chapter of the American Red Cross 2:30 p.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

UNION — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Union Hospital 3 p.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

WAYNE — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Wayne General Hospital 3 p.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

NORTH PLAINFIELD — St. Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick offers free blood pressure and diabetes screenings at North Plainfield Community Center 9 a.m. (732) 745-8600

GARWOOD — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at the Knights of Columbus #5437 37 10 a.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

COLONIA — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at St. John Vianney School 9 a.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

WARREN — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at St. Ignace's Local 475 9 a.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

BASKING RIDGE — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church 9 a.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

WHIPPANY — Columbus Hospital in Newark will host the "Singing Into 2000" gala and dinner party at the Ritz-Carlton Manor. The event will raise money for women's health services and pediatric program. Call (973) 268-1495 for more information

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

UNION — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Knights of Columbus 4454 11 a.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

MONTVILLE — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at the Pine Brook Jewish Center 10 a.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

HOPATCONG — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at the Hopatcong Fire Department 10 a.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

UNION — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at Union Hospital 3 p.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

BELVIDERE — The Blood Center of New Jersey holds a blood drive at the Masonic Women's Lodge 4 p.m. 1-(800) BLOOD-NJ

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital School of Nursing hosts an open house for new nurses 3:30 p.m. (201) 833-3186

GLEN RIDGE — Lung Diagnostics hosts a seminar and workshop for smokers who want to quit at the Meridian Professional Building at Mountaineer Hospital 7:30 p.m. (973) 509-0047

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center hosts a support group meeting for breast cancer survivors 6 p.m. (201) 915-2273

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a seminar on coping with stress during the holidays 6:30 p.m. (732) 937-8051

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

EDISON — JFK Medical Center offers a class in grandparenting for new grandparents 7 p.m. (732) 552-1530

Surgeon general says minorities can improve health gap

DETROIT (AP) U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher said his prescription for eliminating health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities is about changing lifestyles.

Thirty minutes of moderate physical exercise five days a week, five servings of fruits and vegetables daily, no toxins such as tobacco, alcohol and drugs, and responsible sexual behavior is the prescription he gave to more than 1,500 people at a conference held recently on African-American Health.

"It doesn't matter how much we invest in health care, if we can't work with people to change lifestyles, we won't achieve the goal of eliminating disparities," Dr. Satcher told the Detroit Free Press.

Detroit and Genesee County are among the 32 places in the country to receive a planning grant from Satcher's office to participate in the initiative to eliminate disparities by the year 2010. Satcher wants to eliminate disparities in infant mor-



U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher

ality, cancer screening and management, cardiovascular disease, HIV/AIDS infection and immunizations and diabetes.

Satcher focused on diabetes and cardiovascular disease among blacks. Genesee County focused on infant mortality.

TV show gives false impression regarding organ donation issue

SPRINGFIELD — Joseph Roth, President and Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network (The Sharing Network), recently criticized CBS' "Chicago Hope" for a show, entitled "Ya Gotta Have Heart," that gave the false impression that the wealthy can buy priority placement on the transplant waiting list.

"This practice would not only be unethical, but illegal," Roth said.

The basic premise of the episode in question revolves around two patients who desperately need a heart transplant: one rich and one poor. In the broadcast, the rich patient gets the heart (basically in exchange for giving money to the hospital).

Roth continued, "I am concerned and somewhat dismayed by the Chicago Hope episode. There is already a false perception among economically-disadvantaged and minority citizens that organs can be purchased by the wealthy."

With the waiting list disproportionately consisting of these groups, maintaining confidence in the medical commu-

nity is crucial."

"In reality," he said, "organs are allocated to the sickest patients with consideration given to medical matching criteria and time on the waiting list."

Roth added, "I'm concerned that the show's premise almost tantamount to buying human organs was seen as reality, and has the danger of discouraging from giving life-saving organ donations."

With 67,000 on the transplant waiting list, it is responsible to imply that this type of practice occurs." He continued, "In New Jersey we're fortunate that the economically-disadvantaged have access to life saving transplants through state health-care initiatives."

"The Sharing Network has achieved a great deal of success in its ongoing efforts to increase the number of African-American, Latino and Asian-American community members who sign organ donor registry cards," Roth added. "Misconceptions portrayed on the Chicago Hope episode are extremely detrimental to our work."

On a final note, Roth said,

"The show has the opportunity to play an instrumental role in promoting increased awareness among all Americans."

"I would encourage Chicago Hope's producers to use the platform of their show to add, 'to get the message out concerning the gift of renewed life that's made possible through organ donation.'"

The Sharing Network is a federally designated, state-certified procurement organization responsible for recovering organs and tissue for New Jersey residents in need of transplant, as well as those on waiting lists nationwide.

Women can live better, and not just longer

By Larry Lucas

Women live an average of seven years longer than men. That's the good news. But women are now living more than one third of their lives after menopause, when they're most susceptible to osteoporosis, heart disease, breast cancer, diabetes and other ailments.

Although men are at higher risk for many fatal diseases, women have a higher risk of number of chronic conditions, including arthritis and depression.

Dr. Freda Lewis-Hall, a former Washington, D.C., physician, television personality and official of the National Institute of Mental Health who now heads a women's health center at a pharmaceutical company, puts it this way: "It's not just life expectancy—how long you live, it's about how well you live, what kind of quality of life you have."

According to Dr. Lewis Hall, pharmaceutical companies are now doing gender-based research. They're looking at the differences as well as the similarities between men and women in what diseases they get, what symptoms they show and how they respond to treatments.

The pay off is that we can deliver better, more targeted medicines to women, now and in the future, she says.

Current pharmaceutical companies are developing 348 medicines for diseases that disproportionately afflict women, including:

- 24 for rheumatoid arthritis, which often causes pain and disability
- 15 for multiple sclerosis
- 60 for breast cancer, which is expected to kill 43,000 women in the U.S. this year
- 38 for ovarian cancer, which is expected to claim 14,500 lives this year

- 19 for diabetes, which affects 8.1 million American women and costs \$98 billion a year
- 23 for Alzheimer's disease,

which affects more than 14,000 women a year.

- 17 for depression, which affects 12.6 American women
- 24 for osteoporosis, which causes two fractures in American women every minute

In addition, researchers are studying more than 80 new medicines for heart disease, the leading killer of both men and women, and 58 for lung cancer, the leading cancer killer of men and women.

These research projects will create the progress made in women's health over the past few years.

Women now have medicines that can reduce the risk of osteoporosis, prevent breast cancer in women at high risk, women and improve survival rates in women who have the disease, ease the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, slow the progression of disability in multiple sclerosis, improve the quality of life for diabetes patients, and reduce pain for arthritis patients.

The pharmaceutical industry is partnering with women to improve their health. Dr. Lewis-Hall says women need to be more assertive and tenacious in finding solutions for their health problems. If you don't have a disease, urgency about your own health isn't in trouble. The best chance against almost every disease is to take care of your own health.

Lewis Hall's advice to women: Don't put off getting a mammogram, your bone density screening, your Pap smear. Don't make excuses. "You're probably going to live long," she says. "Whether you live well is up to you."

For more information on medicines in development for women, see PHARMA's website at www.phrma.org.

Larry Lucas is an associate vice president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America.

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A message from The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
Christine Todd Whitman, Governor

New Jersey Department of Human Services
Division of Youth and Family Services

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Chico DeBarge remains the man on "The Game"

Chico DeBarge *The Game* Motown Records

Forty years ago Motown Records gave birth to an era of soul that left its mark on this century.

Now, with some of its newer artists, especially Chico DeBarge who took the elements that made his single from his last album successful and infused them into every song on his new 12-track compilation, "The Game."

Keeping true to his non-flourishing everyday blue collar awareness of himself, he digs deeper into the aspects of relationships, from fidelity to trust and betrayal.

DeBarge shines on tracks like "Give You What You Want," and "Listen To Your Man," in which he explores the lack of trust some women feel about their men. He also sings about the tough roads people can experience in life through an almost semi-autobiographical title track "The Game" (taking about keep



Photo by Stephen McBride

Chico DeBarge brings his cool to a world he sees as cruel.

However, the pitfalls of this world come in the form of the tracks on the album, which foster the same sound as his last album. Also, DeBarge struggles with the Marvin Gaye hit "I'll Tomorrow."

But despite these things, DeBarge's poetic ballads provide a thought provoking selection that lends itself to a meditation about life and ourselves.

Sonny Rollins will celebrate 50 years in jazz at NJPAC

Some artists celebrate their milestones with big lavish parties with many of their peers.

However, for tenor saxophonist Sonny Rollins, things will be a little different, because he will be celebrating with his fans.

Rollins will perform at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center November 20 at 8 p.m. in Prudential Hall, on the 50th anniversary of his first recording session.

Rollins, who has been called "The Last Jazz Immortal" by the Village Voice, is revered as one of the jazz greats along with Miles Davis, John Coltrane, and Thelonious Monk. Rollins gained notoriety with such albums as "Saxophone Colossus" and "A Night at the Vanguard," and also became known as one of the pioneers of the pianoless jazz group, unaccompanied saxophone solos, playing unconventional time signatures, and went on to dominate the sound of the grittier, harsher tenor sax sound.

The Harlem born son of West Indian immigrants Rollins took his first lesson as a child during the 1930s, but was instantly attracted to the sight of gleaming tenor saxophonist at his uncle's house that drew him to the instrument. He learned the rules

from various artists, including his mentor Monk. By the time he was 20, Rollins had bebop greats like pianist Bud Powell and trombonist J.J. Johnson.

Rollins' career expanded during the 1950s and 1960s, and worked with many top jazz greats like Duke Ellington, Roy Cherry and composed the soundtrack of the film "Allie," in which he experimented with the saxophone by dissonating parts of his instrument.

After taking a spiritual break from music at the end of the 1960s, he came back refreshed and renewed on his own terms. He has since worked with Monk, Davis, and other jazz greats of this time.

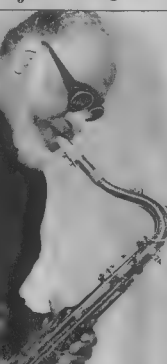


Photo courtesy of NJPAC

Sonny Rollins

Rollins, who has more than 50 albums, will be at NJPAC for only night only. Tickets can be purchased by calling 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

In Your Ear

By Robert E. Williams III

It ain't over 'til the phat lady sings



Photo courtesy of Sony Music

Mary J. Blige

After a decade of watching Mary J. Blige grow from a fashionable rhapsodic testament to the energy of hip-hop through videos like "Real Love" and "Sweet Thing," observers have formed two schools of thought about Mary's voice. One school feels she has a raw talent that has not yet developed enough to match the heavyweight contenders of R&B and soul music, like Aretha Franklin and Whitney Houston. Others just think she can't sing.

Thus, the launched debate raved on as Blige released album after album of chart-topping hits and grew into a music icon. But even with all the praise for her fashion sense, down to earth style, and song selection (even then she was criticized as the "Remake Queen"), with the debate still raging, as to whether or not she could sing.

But then in 1996 things started to change after a particular project.

As the country was gearing for "Waiting To Exhale," Blige and Whitney Houston were producing what would become one of the best CDs in modern scores of recent times. Industry talk has it that Blige made Mary J. Blige take voice lessons while producing the song "Not Gon' Cry," and it appeared to have a dramatic effect on the album as one of its singles, and eventually Blige's career.

Gradually critics took notice to Blige and the improvement of her voice, through her hits singles like "Everytime" and "Seven Days," in which she was hitting notes that was not known for reaching, and sounding smoother, clearer, with less of the raspiness in her voice.

Not only did critics notice, but so did her musical peers. George Michael and Eric Clapton, who tapped Blige on the shoulder to appear on their albums and on performances.

And now things have come full circle for Blige on the latest of many projects, "My Christmas Album," on which she sings "Someday At Christmas." The CD jacket lists Blige as the vocalist on the song, but many will be surprised at the clarity of her voice (after I listened to the song, I kept checking the CD jacket to make sure I had the right artist's name).

Blige is also featured on two other live albums, "VH1 Divas Live '99" and "A Very Special Christmas 4 Live From Washington D.C.," and is filming a movie with Q.T. Smith, formerly of A Tribe Called Quest.

Looking back at all of Blige's success and future projects come, all that she can say to those who thought she would be gone with the '90s is "it ain't over 'til the phat lady sings!"

To Aspiring Poets

The City News Artz Wednesday section is seeking unpub'd poets to submit their work for exposure in a upcoming section featuring new artists.

THE LAST JAZZ IMMORTAL - The Village Voice

SONNY ROLLINS

tenor saxophone

SAT NOV 20 at 8:00
Sonny Rollins has played with everyone from Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie to John Coltrane and Miles Davis. He's here when this jazz legend makes his NJPAC debut.
Prudential Hall • Tickets: \$46, \$40, \$33, \$24, \$17, \$10

DENYCE GRAVES

mezzo-soprano

WARREN JONES
piano

SUN NOV 28 at 3:00
The Metropolitan Opera's newest superstar makes her NJPAC debut. This brilliant young mezzo-soprano's performance in the landmark production like Franco Zeffirelli's Carmen have earned her unanimous acclaim around the world.
Works by Puccini, Bizet, Saint-Saëns, Berlioz and de Falla.
Prudential Hall • Tickets: \$46, \$40, \$33, \$24, \$17, \$10

1999 KWANZAA FESTIVAL

FRI DEC 17 and SAT DEC 18
NJPAC's annual Kwanzaa Festival includes tributes to community elders, musical and dance performances and a FREE FAMILY FUN DAY on Saturday Dec 18. Special guest artists: Linique and Ultimate Dance Companies.
Ages 8 & up
CALL 1-888-GO-NJPAC for details.

SAVION GLOVER

IN CONCERT with special guests
Jimmy Slyde, Buster Brown and Carlie Williams

FOOTNOTES
SAT DEC 18 at 8:00
Newark's own Savion Glover, Tony Award-winner and one of today's most celebrated dance masters, has redefined the art of tap. From his Broadway debut in The Tap Dance Kid to his recent triumph as choreographer of the hit film Boyz n the Trappin', Glover has become known worldwide for his outrageous energy and artistry.
Prudential Hall • Tickets: \$46, \$40, \$33, \$24, \$17, \$10

REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

WED JAN 12 at 7:00
NJPAC's third annual celebration of the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Prudential Hall • Tickets: Adult \$25 • Child \$12

ART ENSEMBLE OF CHICAGO & WORLD SAXOPHONE QUARTET

SUN JAN 16 at 3:00
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Prudential Hall • Tickets: \$46, \$40, \$33, \$24, \$17, \$10

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Music Notes

Babyface to launch music information website

For those who do not know much about the business side of the music industry, Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds will help them understand it through a new website that he and Grammy-winning songwriters Carole Bayer Sager and David Foster (he penned "I Have Nothing" and other hits for Whitney Houston). The website will be posted November 15, with information on singing and songwriting contests. Winners of the contest will have the opportunity to be produced by Babyface and Foster. The three are expected to announce other personalities who have joined the project in a matter of weeks.

The Roots Get Ready For Another Tour

Who's the hardest working group in hip-hop? The Roots are definitely contenders for that title as they prepare for the start of another tour, which began at the Voodoo Music Festival in New Orleans over Halloween weekend, while taking to the road last week.

The Philadelphia-based group, who toured earlier this year, are promoting their latest album "Come Alive," a live album that was released last week. The group will appear at the Brooklyn Music Academy December 11.

Tina Turner announces tour plans

Tina Turner announced plans for her final stadium tour last week in Paris to promote her "Twenty Four Seven" album set to be released internationally this week by Parlophone/EMI on Feb 1 in North America.

The "Millennium 2000 Twenty Four Seven" tour will begin early next year in the United States, and head for Zurich on June 30.

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Rosa Parks takes Outkast to court

Civil Rights pioneer Rosa Parks and her attorneys Gregory J. Reed and Richard Manson appeared in the U.S. district court of Eastern Michigan over the rights of the use of Parks' name on Outkast's hit and tribute to Parks, "Rosa Parks."

Parks is alleging that LaFace Records, the group's label, infringed on her right of using her name publicly by using her name in a song with explicit, racial slurs, and sex and language, according to Blige. Parks is arguing that this is contrary to her beliefs and defames her name and her involvement with the Civil Rights movement.

Outkast has gained the services of Joseph Beck, who is the attorney of the estate of Martin Luther King Jr.

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Billboard

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

MADISON — The New Jersey Shakespeare Festival presents the play "Tomato & Juliet" Call (973) 593-0188 for information.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The George Street Playhouse presents the play "Do I Hear A Waltz?" 8 p.m. (973) 593-0188.

MILLBURN — The Paper Mill Playhouse presents the play "Bag" Call (973) 593-0188 for information.

NEW YORK — The Morganthal-Fredricks Gallery hosts an exhibit of renowned Japanese photographer Katsum Ohtsuka. Call (212) 226-5577 for information.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents The Flying Karamazov Brothers through Nov. 14. 7:30 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — The Hofstra University's Department of Drama and Dance presents The Fall Dance Concert. 8 p.m. (516) 463-8644.

WATCHUNG — The Watchung Arts Center presents singing Pam Puvion. 8 p.m. (908) 753-0190.

NEWARK — Glaxo Wellcome presents the "Living Proof Tour" starring David Kennedy, Take 6 and Yolanda Adams at Newark Symphony Hall. 8 p.m. (201) 507-8900 or (973) 643-8035.

CAPE MAY — The 12th Annual Cape May Jazz Festival returns to several sites in and around Cape May through Nov. 14. Call (609) 884-7277 for line and information.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

NEW YORK — Veteran actor Keith David performs cabaret at the Hotel Dromedary's O Lounge. 9 p.m. (212) 333-7400.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents The Flying Karamazov Brothers, Sharpe, Flare and Accidental. 8:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Pato De Lucia Sextet. 8 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

METUCHEN — The Forum Theater Company presents the kids play "Winnie the Pooh Christmas." 11 a.m. (732) 546-4670.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Kroyan Zimmerman and the Festival Orchestra of Poland. 3 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Crossroads Theater presents the musical "Play On." 8 p.m. (973) 593-0188.

NEW YORK — The Studio Museum in Harlem presents an exhibit of contemporary art in transition. Call (212) 854-4500 for information.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theater presents comedian Lili Tomlin. 8 p.m. (732) 246-7459.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

NEWARK — The African Globe TheaterWorks presents August Wilson's "Fences" at Newark's Symphony Hall. African Globe Theater through November 21. 8 p.m. (973) 642-1984.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents All-State Jazz Concert. 7 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Sonny Rollins. 8 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

ELIZABETH — Odyssey International Productions presents exciting look at the world of fashion in "Have Faith In Fashion." 11 a.m. at the Wyndham Garden Hotel. 6 p.m. (908) 474-1295.

NEWARK — The Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce of Essex County presents "Celebrazco, A Hispanic Gala Dance." The dance celebrates the pride of third generation Hispanics at Newark Symphony Hall. 8 p.m. (973) 465-5441.

MORRISTOWN — The Folk Project presents Beverly Smith and the Rhythm Method Swing Band at the Morris County Cultural Center. Call (973) 833-3559 for information.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Grammy award artist Sting. 7:30 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

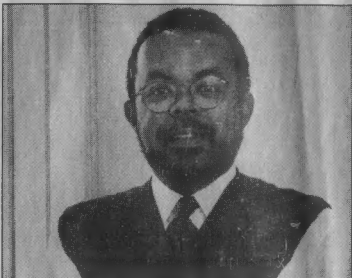
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents The New York Philharmonic. 8 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents opera singer Denyce Graves. 3 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

Henry Louis Gates' western ways depict Africans as the culprit in the annals of slavery on PBS series



Henry Louis Gates Jr.

By Sarah Smith Duckworth
Contributing writer

From October 25 to October 27, 1999 the Public Broadcasting Service presented six hours of Professor Henry Louis Gates' photographically beautiful marathon trip across the continent of Africa on Channel 13, from 9-11 p.m. An encore presentation was shown on October 30, along with question and answer sessions featuring the famous

Dr. Gates of Harvard University and two TV hosts.

On the first night of the telecast, I began watching the special feeling I would learn a great deal from the esteemed professor about the continent I call the Motherland. In fifteen minutes, I realized I was in for a profound disappointment.

First of all, I could not help but notice how Gates intended to situate himself throughout this journey as a Westerner. He wore a Harvard Tee-shirt which set the standard for his identification throughout. Eschewing native garb except on one occasion when he wished to enter an African ceremony that required

formal African attire, he stuck to Tee-shirts with Harvard prominently emblazoned across the front, thereby announcing his props everywhere he went. On one occasion, he put on a Western suit to hold court with an African host man but only after he had insulted the man by first showing up for their scheduled meeting in a Tee-shirt. After a weak apology explaining that he had come dressed so casually because he found himself running behind schedule and did not wish to be late, he was politely rebuffed by the priest. Fortunately, he took the hint and came back another time for the interview. Overall, his demeanor was patronizing. His attitude toward African royalty was pretty much the same. His big question was to their guilt for the slave trade.

Throughout his presentation, Dr. Gates assigned primary guilt for African slavery to Africans. He made it crystal clear that he believed there never would have been enslavement of blacks if Africans had not conducted the trade. The worst part of his argument was when he confronted an African woman, one of 2,000 descendants of a white man named DeSoto, the so-called king of slavery, who had come to Africa to deal in human flesh and stayed to live out his life in a West African town, taking several African wives and having 99 children by them. At Gates's prompting, she unhappily

"admitted" that Africans were primary participants in the American slave trade and she felt very bad about it. To complete the logic of the hour, DeSoto was transmogrified before my eyes as an African monarch who had left his African children a guilt trip ticket to ante up for angry African Americans who would return to Africa looking for a ride back to their roots. What a pity, Gates concluded.

Every African he met thereafter was rightfully ashamed of the slave trade from which their forebears had received much "wealth," and most of the ones he interviewed hated being thought of as being classified as Africans. For example, the Africans who called themselves Persians, Gates quipped, looked about as Persian as Mike Tyson. Ha, ha.

I couldn't believe the slant on the story Gates was weaving. I wondered what his motivation could be. In a commentary to one of TV hosts for the Saturday airing, Gates explained that the story of the major participation of Africans in the European slave trade there was little known. Then, of course, it became clearer to me that he was probably marketing a concept to soothe the guilty consciences of whites whose ancestors bought slaves and inform black folks who may be clamoring for reparations that they are looking in the wrong place for redress.

Can you imagine a six-hour special focusing on Jewish trai-

tors who made the Holocaust possible? Surely the harm done to the Jews as a people under the oppressive and murderous reign of Hitler overshadows the decent of Jewish traitors who were complicit in the demise of other Jews. The truth is that the real burden of guilt lies with the people who conceive an evil, create the machinery to implement the evil, and then support it to the hilt. Africans were machines in this foul European industry, mere pawns. Africans certainly did not get rich off of European slavery. Moreover, Africans concept of slavery was much more benign than that of chattel slavery.

Gates glossed over the fact that some African chiefs did try periodically to end slave traffic through actual tribal warfare. When one of the Africans Gates interviewed told Gates that the chief of his village had tried to end the trade in his area during the 1800's, Gates' response was, "It didn't work, did it? So, according to Gates, not only should we blame the corrupt and cowardly African chiefs armed with spears for the world slave trade since they were not able to stop the organized efforts of enterprising and cunning Europeans backed by guns and the wealth of whole nations.

Reflections Films mirrors Spike's spirit



Chris Morton, Mark Anthony McKenzie are up and coming Newark filmmakers with a new film in post production "Harlem's Beauty."

By Robert E. Williams III
Staff writer

If the commitment of Chris Morton and Mark Anthony McKenzie toward making it in the film industry is any indication of how far they will go, then you should look up to the sky to find the stars these young filmmakers are destined to become.

The duo are the driving force behind Reflections Films, Inc., a production company in the production of a film titled "Harlem's Beauty." The company was founded by McKenzie, whose envisioned a career in film while attending Wilson's University as a theatre major and film at Rutgers University.

While filming a short film in 1997 called "Shorties," a tale of four children who endure abuse in their youth and how they deal with issues of their childhood as adults, McKenzie met Morton, an actor looking to be at the top of the industry like McKenzie. It was this common goal and Morton's expressed dedication to making the film that impressed McKenzie, and eventually led to their partnership, and the vision of Reflections Films.

"We are geared toward telling human stories. Even though we are African American men, we want to tell stories that uplift the human spirit," said Morton in a recent interview about Harlem's Beauty.

The movie is about a number of situations that take place due to circumstances surrounding Harlem, the lead female

romantic lead in the film.

"She is named Harlem because she embodies the whole spirit of Harlem. Beauty, intelligence, and charisma," Morton said. The story begins with the meeting of Steven, a white resident of Harlem, New York, where his parents move when they lost a substantial amount of money in the stock market. As a grown man he is involved in a fight with a man named Yummi, and ultimately gains his respect and become friends. But then their friendship is tested by Steven's attraction to Harlem Yummi's girlfriend. She is return is fed up with Yummi's unidility and is searching for a true commitment. Also surrounding the plot are subplots of exploring new relationships other than romantic.

"The vision is Harlem's Beauty is to have a film that will allow the audience to think feel of course be entertained. We don't want to make a movie with over the top action and no story line, and at the same we don't want a film that is too preachy. We want them to feel that they are getting something out of it," Morton said.

Right now production has slowed down due to the lack of funds to finish the post-production of the film. And in the tradition of Spike Lee, the company is seeking investors to help finance the process of editing film and the promotion for it. Selling units at \$2,500 each, the company also sells shares at lower costs.

N Y story tells of the African American experience

"New York: A Documentary Film," the birth of the new media industries, the African American experience and an incredible array of human cultural energies converge, ending with the construction of the world's tallest building. The show will air Nov. 18, from 9-11 p.m. on Channel 13. On screen commentators will include Rev. Calvin O. Butts, Mike Wallace and Carol Willis to name a few. The dramatic voice of Keith David will be heard.



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— Paul Robeson

Les Ballets Africains



The breathtaking musical art of Africa will be staged at the Mary Burch Theater at Essex County College on Nov. 11, at 7:30 p.m. for tickets telephone (973) 877-4425.

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FROM DEVELOPERS

NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE HOMES PROJECT
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking qualified developers for pre-construction, construction, and marketing advice associated with the staged development of a residential project containing approximately fifty-six (56) units to be constructed generally on or near North Carolina Avenue, between Adriatic, Dravet, and Middleborough Avenues, on Block Nos. 443-448 in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Experience, financial strength, quality and depth of personnel, fee to develop the project, and the specific project concept proposal are determining factors in the selection of the Qualified Developer. If needed, a contract your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

Copies of the Request for Qualifications will be available from the CRDA offices beginning Wednesday, November 10, 1999. Residents are required to attend a pre-submission presentation to be held on Wednesday, November 17, 1999 at 3:00 PM at the office of CRDA, 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ 08401, (between Pennsylvania and Virginia Avenues). The mandatory pre-submission conference will begin promptly. No one will be admitted after the meeting commences. Submissions will not be accepted from firms which do not have a representative in attendance at the mandatory pre-submission conference.

Qualifications must be received by the CRDA by 4:00 PM on Thursday, December 2, 1999. No faxed submissions will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:
Adrienne C. Hamilton
Project Consultant to the
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
Phone: 609-347-8342
Fax: 609-347-1180

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TO: POSSIBLA WHITE
ADDRESS UNKNOWN

You are hereby notified that the Georgia Department of Human Resources, acting by and through the Lowndes County Department of Family and Children Services, has filed a Motion for Extension in the Juvenile Court of Lowndes County, Georgia, alleging that your children are neglected and in need of temporary custody of said children.

You are summoned to be and appear before the Juvenile Court of Lowndes County for a hearing to be held on the 07th day of December 1999 at 3:00 o'clock p.m. at the Lowndes County Law Enforcement Complex, Jail Courthouse #2, 111 Russell Road, Valdosta, Georgia. Should you fail to appear at the above-mentioned hearing, the Order entered pursuant to the hearing will be made the Final Order of the Court.

You are entitled to counsel in these proceedings. Should you be unable to afford counsel, counsel will be appointed for you.

A copy of the Petition is available at the office of the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Lowndes County at 1000 Slater Street, Valdosta, Georgia.

WITNESS the Honorable O. Wayne Ellerbe, Judge of Juvenile Court, on this 29 day of October 1999.

Clerk of Juvenile Court
Lowndes County, Georgia

\$99.16

INVITATION TO BID

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PLAINFIELD
NEW JERSEY

The Housing Authority of Plainfield (PHAP) will receive sealed bids on Monday, November 29, 1999, at 11:00 a.m. for the following:

PAINTING APARTMENTS FOR APARTMENT THUNDER
All bid packages shall clearly indicate the specific applicable bid title and will be addressed and received on the above date by the Housing Authority of Plainfield, 510 East Front Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bid Specifications for the above are available for pick-up at the Main Office of the PHAP at the said address. Telephone: (908) 769-6335.

Bid Bonds and Performance Bonds are not required for these bids. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127, Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) will be offered full opportunity to bid and will not be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender or national origin in consideration of an award.

The PHAP reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any informalities therein. The PHAP reserves the right to reject any partial bids, and to award all or a portion of the award to one or more responsible bidders.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the PHAP.

The Housing Authority of Plainfield

Carolyn Reese
Executive Director

\$54.94

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOR THE FABRICATION AND
INSTALLATION OF PROJECT SIGNS OF
AN "AS-NEEDED" BASIS

The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) is seeking proposals from qualified firms for the fabrication and installation of project signs as required by the RFP for the year 2000-2001.

If awarded a contract your company/firm will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) (Law Against Discrimination in Public Contracts).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 10, 1999 at CRDA offices located at 1014 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ (between Pennsylvania and Virginia Avenues). Copies of the Request for Proposals will be distributed at the mandatory conference. The mandatory pre-bid conference will begin promptly at 11:00 AM. No one will be admitted after the meeting commences. Proposals will not be accepted from firms which do not have a representative affiliated to the mandatory pre-bid conference.

Proposals will be required to be received by the CRDA by 4:00 pm on Monday, December 6, 1999. Proposals will be opened publicly at that time. No faxed proposals will be accepted.

Questions are to be directed to:

Kenneth Plesse
Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
1014 Atlantic Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-347-0500

LEGAL NOTICE

HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE
TOWN OF MORRISTOWN

The Housing Authority of the Town of Morristown is seeking legal representation for a two (2) year period commencing February 22, 2000 for the following, but not limited to, matters listed below:

1. Attendance at a minimum of twelve (12) regularly scheduled board meetings per year.
2. Institution of tenancy related suits.
3. Review and approval of bid documents and bids.
4. Legal opinions regarding Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations.
5. Representation of Authority regarding employee matters.
6. Preparation of board resolutions.

All interested parties should be familiar with Department of Housing and Urban Development rules and regulations and knowledge of New Jersey public bidding laws. All work not covered in the contract should be quoted as an item on the state. Tenancy cases should be quoted on a fixed fee basis. Copies of Department of Housing and Urban Development approved form of contract are available at the Morristown Housing Authority offices, 31 Early Street, Morristown, New Jersey.

Please submit all proposals to David Gardner, Executive Director, Morristown Housing Authority, 31 Early Street, Morristown, New Jersey 07960, no later than January 7, 2000, 1:00 p.m. prevailing time.

David Gardner
Executive Director

\$82.85

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PLAINFIELD

INVITATION TO BID

FOR
EXTERMINATOR SERVICES

The Housing Authority of Plainfield (PHAP) will receive sealed bids for extermination services on the following date:

Monday, November 29, 1999

At 10:30 a.m.

All bid packages shall clearly indicate the specific applicable title and will be addressed and received on the above date by the Housing Authority of Plainfield, 510 East Front Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bid specifications for the above are available for pick-up at the main office of the PHAP at the said address. The telephone number is 908-769-6335.

Bid Bonds and Performance Bonds are not required for these bids. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127, Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) will be offered full opportunity to bid and will not be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender or national origin in consideration of an award.

The PHAP reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any informalities therein. The PHAP reserves the right to reject any partial bids and to award all or a portion of the award to one or more responsible bidders.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the PHAP.

The Housing Authority of Plainfield

Carolyn A. Reese
Executive Director

\$54.36

INVITATION TO BID

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF PLAINFIELD

The Housing Authority of Plainfield (PHAP) will receive sealed bids for the following:

On Monday, November 29, 1999, at 10:30 a.m.

PAINTING APARTMENTS FOR APARTMENT THUNDER

Ward End and Elmwood Courts, Nathewood and Liberty Villages, and Richmond Towers.

All bid packages shall clearly indicate the specific applicable bid title and will be addressed and received on the above date by the Housing Authority of Plainfield, 510 East Front Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bid specifications for the above are available for pick-up at the Main Office of the PHAP at the said address. Telephone: (908) 769-6335.

Bid Bonds and Performance Bonds are not required for these bids. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127, Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) will be offered full opportunity to bid and will not be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender or national origin in consideration of an award.

The PHAP reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any informalities therein. The PHAP reserves the right to reject any partial bids, and to award all or a portion of the award to one or more responsible bidders.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the PHAP.

The Housing Authority of Plainfield

CAROLYN A. REESE,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

\$90.82

PLACE
YOUR
LEGAL ADS
HERE
CALL
(973) 642-4400
OR FAX TO
(973) 642-5444

'Sweetness' to the bitter end

On Monday Nov. 1, the city of Chicago lost one of its greatest sports heroes when Walter Payton died of bile duct cancer. He was 45.

Nicknamed because of his gorgeous yet ferocious running style, Payton was as admired and respected off the field as on it.

Former New York Giant defensive great Harry Carson recently remarked, "He never boasted, he never bragged, he never spiked the ball the way guys do now. Walter wasn't that type of guy. He had an inordinate amount of class and character. He was a sportsman."

Adjectives such as class, character, determination and tough were the words most often associated with Payton. Those terms not only defined him, but helped explain how an undersized athlete from a small black college (Jackson State) developed into one of the NFL's all-time greatest players. A nine-time pro-bowl selection, Payton played 13 years in the NFL and concluded his career as the league's all-time leading rusher with 16,726 yards.

What makes Payton's accomplishment even more remarkable is the fact that, for much of his career, he played on horrible teams. And even though he was the Bears' only legitimate weapon, opposing teams still could not stop him. Case in point: His single-game rushing record of 275 yards occurred during the year when the Bears compiled a 1-15 record.

When the Bears were finally able to field a Super Bowl champion in 1985, Payton remained the team's prime offensive weapon, rushing for 1551 yards and 9 touchdowns. And despite the fact that he did not score a touchdown in the Super Bowl, he earned the ring which allowed him to avoid becoming football's version of Chicago Cub Ernie Banks.

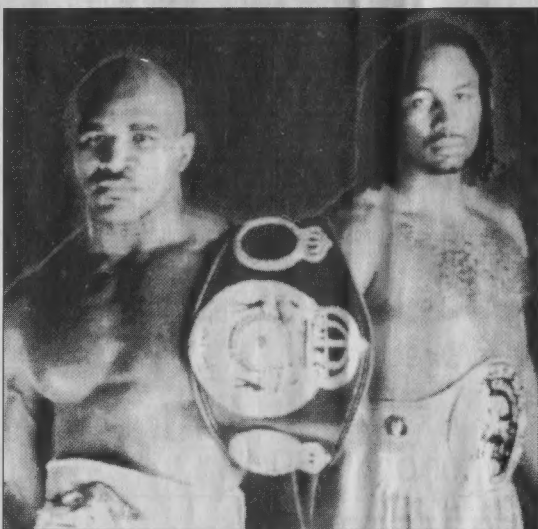
When Payton retired in 1987, he leveraged his competitive spirit, intelligence and determination to achieve success in the business world. Like Dave Bing and Magic Johnson, Payton was a shining example of how an athlete can make the jump from sports to entrepreneurial accomplishment.

Unfortunately, Payton's indomitable will, which served him well in sports and business, could not overcome the cancer which ravaged his body until finally overtaking it. But it is that same spirit that will continue to define the Chicago — a city known for its harsh winters, tough inhabitants, and place where the best running back in football history played his craft.



Greg Moore

Will the real champion please stand up



Evander Holyfield (left) and Lennox Lewis duke it out for the Heavyweight Championship on Saturday night.

LAS VEGAS — Following the controversial draw last March, promoter Don King boomed enthusiastically at the post-fight press conference. "Let's do it again." While both Evander Holyfield and Lennox Lewis were not exactly in the mood following 12 tiring rounds at Madison Square Garden before a record live-gate crowd — they will do it again.

Holyfield will put his IBF and WBA belts and Lewis his WBC belt on the line on Saturday Nov. 13 in Las Vegas for the right to be called the "Heavyweight Champion of the World."

Heart, courage and toughness have always been words associated with great boxing champions, but perhaps no one in the history of the sport exemplifies these traits better than Evander Holyfield (36-3-1, 25 KO's).

With all that Holyfield has accomplished in his illustrious ring career, he now must be associated with great boxing champions, but perhaps no one in the history of the sport exemplifies these traits better than Evander Holyfield (36-3-1, 25 KO's).

Holyfield's 11th round knockout over the heavily favored Mike Tyson for the WBA Heavyweight title on Nov. 9, 1996, was epic, shocking and beyond dramatic. Their second encounter was also leaning heavily in Holyfield's favor when a frustrated Tyson was disqualified for biting Holyfield's ear. The incident became one of the most bizarre and infamous in sports history.

Holyfield then stopped Michael Moorer in the 8th round on Nov. 3, 1997, to add the IBF Heavyweight

crown to his accomplishments. But that win only gave Holyfield two of the three belts he has been craving.

"Holyfield's track record speaks for itself, having never lost a rematch," said promoter Don King. "I am proud to be the promoter of the last great fight of the millennium."

Since Lennox Lewis (34-1-1, 27 KO's) knocked out Riddick Bowe to win the gold medal at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, he has had one goal: to become the undisputed heavyweight champion of the world. Lewis's overhead right has been labeled the most lethal punch the heavyweight division has witnessed in over a decade. Within the span of a year, two former undisputed heavyweight champions — Mike Tyson and Riddick Bowe — sacrificed huge paydays rather than absorb his sledgehammer-like punches.

After winning the WBC heavyweight title against Oliver McCall on Feb. 7, 1997, with a 5th-round TKO, Lewis defended the title four times: July 12, 1997, against Henry Akwande; Oct. 4, 1997, against Andrew Golota, who Lewis destroyed in the first round; March 28, 1998, against Shannon Briggs; and September 26, 1998, against Zeljko Ravonovic. Now, Lewis is looking forward to this huge bout, and is determined to take home all three belts.

The Holyfield vs. Lewis pay-per-view telecast is being produced and distributed by TVKO, and will be available to over 42 million homes. The live telecast begins at 9 p.m. Eastern/6 p.m. Pacific Time.

Griffey asks for a trade

By Jim Cour

SEATTLE (AP) — Ken Griffey Jr., wanting to play closer to his home in Florida, rejected Seattle's eight-year contract offer and the Mariners said they will try to trade the 10-time All-Star.

Seattle presented Griffey a new contract proposal on July 17: a deal thought to be worth \$135 million, which would have made Griffey the highest-paid player in baseball.

"This has been an extremely difficult decision for me," Griffey said in a joint statement he released with the team. "Mariners fans throughout the Pacific Northwest have been very loyal and devoted to me. I will truly miss them."

Griffey hit 48 homers this year after hitting 56 in consecutive seasons. The center fielder, who turns 30 later this month, has 598 career homers and is thought to have the best chance among current players of breaking Hank Aaron's record of 755.

"The Mariners agreed to Ken's request and will seek to trade him during the current offseason," the joint statement said.

Griffey, who has veto power over any deal because he is a 10-year veteran who has played five years with his current team, and his agent, Brian Goldberg, met last week in Orlando, Fla., with Mariners chairman Howard Lincoln, president Chuck Armstrong and new general manager Pat Gillick. Lincoln told a news conference that Griffey "has clearly been agonizing over this decision for some time," and that it was "a difficult loss" for the team.

He praised Griffey, however, for wanting to spend more time with his two young children.

"This is not a decision I can quarrel with or argue with, it's only a decision that I can respect," Lincoln said. "It strictly has to do

with family, time and geography," Goldberg said.

Gillick, hired last week to replace the retiring Woody Woodward, said the Mariners hope to get the most value they can for Griffey. He has no timetable and hopes to get "four players of quality."

"I think our goal is to obtain players that we think can help us in 2000, but I think we have to look a little bit further ahead than 2000," said Gillick, former general manager in Toronto and Baltimore. "In a package for Ken, I think you'll be looking for a mix of players who can help you, the nonment and in the future."

Gillick said he expected a backlash by Mariners fans.

"No matter who you get, the fans and the media are not going to think you got equal value," he said, adding, "We're not going to move him unless we think we got value."

Goldberg did not say where Griffey prefers to play and did not completely rule out Griffey returning to play for Seattle, saying, "You never know."

"The Mariners have done everything humanly possible to keep Ken Griffey Jr. a Seattle Mariner," Lincoln said. "While we are disappointed, we deeply respect Ken's decision to start his family ahead of everything else."

Griffey and Seattle's other star, shortstop Alex Rodriguez, are eligible for free agency after next season.

"We are leaving it up to them to explore what they need to," Goldberg said from his Cincinnati office. "We're confident this is going to work out for everybody."

Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras, did not immediately return a telephone call seeking comment. Goldberg said the Mariners "were very generous with their offer," but Griffey's desire to play closer to home took precedence over money.

"Money was not an issue," he

said, nor was the way the team is being managed or run.

The negotiation with Mariners ownership "was very, very friendly dealing. There was no ill will," Goldberg said.

Seattle moved in July from the homer-friendly Kingdome to Safeco Field, much more a pitchers' park.

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Don Baylor hired as Cubs manager

By Nancy Armour

CHICAGO (AP) — The morning after the New York Yankees swept the Atlanta Braves out of the World Series, Don Baylor's phone rang about 8:30 a.m. It was Chicago general manager Ed Lynch, wanting to talk to Baylor about managing the Cubs.

"I knew from that particular time it was going to be a good working relationship if we could just get the logistics worked out," Baylor said after he was introduced as the Cubs' new manager.

The Atlanta Braves hitting coach replaces Jim Riggleman, who was fired last month. Bay-

lor is the Cubs' 46th manager and the first black to lead the team. Baylor, who managed Colorado from 1993-98 and led the Rockies to their only postseason berth, was mentioned for virtually every opening in baseball. He interviewed with the Milwaukee Brewers, Anaheim Angels and the Cleveland Indians, and had an offer from the Brewers. But it was the Cubs' job he really wanted.

Baylor, 50, spent 19 years in the majors as a player, playing for six different teams. He was the AL MVP in 1979, hitting .286 with 36 home runs for the California Angels. He also led the AL with 139 RBIs and 120 runs that year.